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1913

Clerk of Court.

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**STATEMENT**  
**OF**  
**Pardons, Paroles and**  
**Commutations**

**GRANTED BY**

**COLE. L. BLEASE**  
Governor of South Carolina

**1913**



COLUMBIA, S. C.  
GONZALES AND BRYAN, STATE PRINTERS  
1914

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## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

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State of South Carolina, Executive Chamber.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

I herewith transmit to you reasons for the pardons, paroles and commutations granted since your session of 1913.

I am glad to have had the opportunity to help these unfortunates. Some of them may fall by the wayside, but if I have made one good citizen and saved one soul, I will have done a good work.

"We are sitting in the shadow  
Of a long and lonely night,  
Waiting till some gentle angel  
Comes to lead us to the light.  
For we know there is a magic  
That can give eyes to the blind.  
O well filled hands be generous!  
O pitying hearts, be kind!

Help stumbling feet that wander  
To find the upward way;  
Teach hands that now lie idle  
The joys of work and play.  
Let pity, love and patience  
Our tender teachers be,  
That, though the eyes be blinded,  
The little souls may see.

Your world is large and beautiful,  
Our prison dim and small;  
We stand and wait, imploring:  
'Is there not room for all?  
Give us our children's garden,  
Where we may safely bloom,  
Forgetting in God's sunshine  
Our lot of grief and gloom.'

A little voice comes singing,  
O, listen to its song!  
A little child is pleading  
For those who suffer wrong.

Grant them the patient magic  
That gives eyes to the blind!  
O well filled hands be generous!  
O pitying hearts, be kind!"

Very respectfully,

COLE. L. BLEASE,  
Governor.

## PARDONS GRANTED.

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BATES, JOE (white): Convicted at the October, 1909, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, and sentenced to be hanged; sentence commuted to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary on July 8th, 1911.

Many personal letters were received in this case—so many, in fact, that it would be impossible for me to give even a synopsis of them all. However, I quote from a few, as follows:

Mr. Floyd L. Liles says:

"I ask you to pardon Joe Bates. He was a policeman for years while I was on the Council. Spartanburg never had a better man or more popular officer, and he has many friends here who would be glad to see you give him a chance to start life over, and I believe he will make good."

Mr. W. B. Hallett says:

"Bates worked for me for years and I feel sure that he did not realize what he was doing at the time he shot the woman and I do not think he is a dangerous man to be at large."

Mr. B. F. Shockley says:

"I never have felt that Joe Bates was responsible for his acts when he committed the offense which he is serving sentence for. Evidently he was insane at the time. I had known him before that time for twenty years and knew him to be a good citizen."

Mr. J. P. Belue says:

"I told my wife that Joe Bates' mind was not right and I do hope that you will pardon him."

Dr. S. S. Daniel says:

"That he believes that if Bates is given his freedom he will fully recover his faculties."

In addition to the letters above mentioned, strong petitions were presented, asking for his pardon, headed by Mayor John F. Floyd and Solicitor A. E. Hill; also signed by former Mayors O. L. Johnson and J. B. Lee, of Spartanburg; Ira C. Blackwood, O. W. Leonard, Dr. Geo. A. Bunch, L. W. Perrin, S. T. Lanahan, Master; Register Mesne Conveyance T. R. Trimmier, Dr. W. A. Wallace, Harry Price, Postmaster W. M. Floyd, Rev. J. S. Watkins, Rector of the First Presbyterian Church; Rev. W. D. Dargin, Rural Policemen Williams, Miller and Vernon, R. A. Hannon, Esq., J. R. Coan,

Esq., Geo. Cofield, Health Officer; M. O. Gentry, Horace L. Bomar, Esq., Hon. Ralph K. Carson, President of the South Carolina Bar Association; Magistrate D. T. Gossett, Dr. Wilson, Magistrate Farrow, Clerk of Court Bennett, Deputy Clerk E. W. Miller, County Treasurer W. L. Epps, County Auditor W. G. O'Shields, Superintendent of Education J. H. Brannon, County Supervisor D. M. Miles, former Sheriff Jno. M. Nicholls, W. R. Dillingham, B. E. Creighton, Judge Geo. W. Nicholls, Senator Howard B. Carlisle, Representatives C. D. Fortner, M. A. Moseley, C. C. Wyche, W. S. Rogers, Jr., and by half of the jurors who served in the case, and by more than one thousand of the other citizens of the city and county of Spartanburg.

Thus, it will be seen that this petition, as presented, is signed by the Senator, Representatives, all of the county officials, the Solicitor, the Mayor and some of the Aldermen of the city of Spartanburg; county peace officers, magistrates, rural policemen, ministers of the gospel, practicing physicians, dentists, merchants, cotton mill people, farmers and other people, in all the various occupations of life.

I believe that this man, Bates, was crazy at the time he committed this offense. I paid him a personal visit, while in the jail at Spartanburg, as is fully set forth in my reasons for paroles, commutations and pardons of 1911. The reasons presented them were sufficient in warranting that his sentence be commuted to life imprisonment. I thought then that he should have been committed to the Asylum instead of the Penitentiary, but I did not think it warranted me in giving him a full and free pardon.

Upon the showing which is now made, however, I feel that it would be a great injustice to him to set aside the opinion of the large number of people who have signed this petition, many of whom are among my most bitter political opponents, while very many of them are amongst my strongest and most ardent supporters, and upon this showing the defendant has been granted a full pardon. The principal reason, however, upon which this is granted, is because I believe he was insane when he committed the offense and instead of being convicted as he was, I think he should have been acquitted and placed in the Asylum for treatment. Pardon dated December 22, 1913.

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BOYLES, HERBERT (white): Convicted at the March, 1907, term of Court for Bamberg county, of housebreaking and larceny, and



sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

On April 13, 1909, former Governor M. F. Ansel granted this defendant a parole.

A petition is now presented by the Honorable S. G. Mayfield, of Bamberg, S. C., signed by Sheriff S. G. Ray, Supervisor E. C. Bruce, Hon. B. W. Miley, Member of the House of Representatives; Clerk of Court C. B. Free, Intendant G. W. Hightower, Dr. J. S. Matthews, the prosecutor; former Magistrate J. A. Walker, and other prominent citizens of Bamberg and the community.

Mr. Mayfield, under date of June 2, 1913, writes as follows:

"Bamberg, S. C., June 2, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: Mrs. Boyles is handing you herewith the entire application for a full pardon for her son Herbert. Herbert was convicted at the November, 1908, term, but was paroled by Governor Ansel and put on good behavior. His offense was for breaking into a drug store, so alleged; his conviction was due to the Solicitor constantly referring to a matter between Herbert and his sister, Mrs. Annie Hightower, who in order to get her brother back out of the hands of three young men who were on a drunken spree, consented, on the advice of Capt. J. A. Walker, then Magistrate (whose name I have checked on this list), to issue a warrant and have her brother arrested for horse stealing.

Dr. J. S. Matthews is the first name on the list asking for the full pardon of Herbert, who was the prosecutor, it being his drug store; the second name is G. W. Hightower, who is intendant of the town, and you will notice that the others are merchants of the town and bankers.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) S. G. MAYFIELD."

In view of the petition presented, together with the above communication from Mr. Mayfield, a pardon was granted to the defendant, on June 7, 1913, in order that his citizenship might be restored.

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BRYANT, GEORGE W. (colored): Convicted before Magistrate W. C. Broadwell, at Anderson, S. C., on September 3, 1913, of carrying concealed weapons and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Anderson county.

The following communication was received from Hon. W. H. Frierson, City Recorder for the City of Anderson, S. C.:

"The City of Anderson v. Geo. W. Bryant.

Anderson, S. C., September 25, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: The above named defendant was brought before me as Recorder for this city on September 3d, and arraigned on the charge of carrying on his person a razor.

The facts clearly showed that he was a barber, engaged in his trade at this place and carried in his pocket from his place of business to another barber shop and sold it, and when the purchaser wanted to buy another like it he started to carry another. On his way he offered to pawn it for fifty cents (he seemed to be in need of money) to a white man, who put the cops wise and he was arrested.

I held that there being absolutely no evidence of intent to make an unlawful use of the razor, this was not a case calling for punishment. The City Council had sometime ago fixed \$50 as the lowest fine I might impose for carrying a weapon, and that was the milk in the cocoanut to the prosecution. I found him not guilty on the ground that the statute must be construed reasonably. The razor is mainly used to shave with and not to do personal injury, and the circumstances of each case must have their bearing. There was absolutely nothing to suggest any unlawful intent on the part of the defendant. The facts were just as stated.

I have control over the policemen only in the court room, and they do not take their orders from me as to their outside duties.

In order to spite me, they swore out a warrant before a local Magistrate and had him railroaded into the county chain gang, where he is now serving time.

I reported the matter to the Police Commission, but nothing has come of it. I want you to pardon this man—not because he is going to have a long sentence—but in the interests of justice and as an act of righteousness. It would also be a rebuke to this extravagant abuse of power. I gave the members of the force a sound lecture for it. The chief put it off on one of the sergeants and the sergeant told me later the chief ordered him to do it. The Mayor has not seen fit to suspend either of them. The object of this is not in any way to throw off on the Mayor. He is a kind and polite sort of

man. I mention details that you may know how some men, clothed with a little brief authority, do use their offices to oppress the poor.

I should greatly appreciate your exercise of your prerogative in this case, not because the sentence is a long one, but it is a palpable injustice. We cannot build a citizenship, we cannot expect even the humblest negro to respect the law and to live to obey it, when it not only does not protect him in his rights, but the Courts are made the instruments of perpetrating a great injustice upon him.

Your exercise of the pardoning power in this case will be an act of justice and, as well, mercy—that quality that ‘benefits the king better than his crown.’

I should greatly appreciate. Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) W. H. FRIERSON,  
City Recorder.

I am told that the fellow was prevailed upon to plead guilty and that the Magistrate in view of that fact felt bound to sentence. He acted as believed proper, though in that I think he was mistaken.”

Also, the following petition was presented in behalf of the defendant:

“We, the undersigned citizens and officers of Anderson county, do cordially join in the application for pardon on behalf of Geo. W. Bryant and respectfully show that from all we have been able to learn, he has not had a square deal.

We further state that the accompanying letter from Recorder Frierson may be depended upon as a true representation of the facts. We know him to be a just, humane and truthful man.

(Signed) J. R. FANT,  
J. G. HARDIN, Coroner, A. C.;  
W. T. MCGREGOR,  
J. A. WELBORN,  
CHAS. C. LANGSTON,  
SAMUEL MURPHY,  
SAMUEL E. MOORE,  
D. F. VANDIVER,  
J. M. PAYNE,  
J. MACK KING,  
J. S. ACKER,  
JAS. N. PEARMAN.”

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a full and free pardon on September 26, 1913.



CASH, RONIE (white): Convicted before Magistrate A. Curtis Wall, Spartanburg county, September 22, 1912, for petit larceny, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Spartanburg county.

The following communication was received from Solicitor A. E. Hill:

"Spartanburg, S. C., November 12, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I respectfully ask for the pardon, for the purpose of restoring citizenship, of Ronie Cash, white, convicted of petit larceny before Magistrate A. Curtis Wall, of Spartanburg county, on September 22, 1912, and sentenced to serve thirty days or to pay a fine of \$50. Defendant served his time, and the pardon is asked for the reason that the said Ronie Cash is a material and the only eyewitness in a case of arson to be tried at the next term of the General Sessions Court for Spartanburg county, and I believe his testimony is necessary in order to secure a conviction in said case.

Respectfully,

(Signed) A. E. HILL,  
Solicitor, Seventh Circuit."

Upon the above request of Solicitor Hill, a pardon was granted the defendant, in order that his citizenship may be restored—he being an important witness for the State in a case of arson—and the sentence imposed having already been served. Pardon dated November 13, 1913.

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CHESHIRE, V. B. (white): Convicted before the Mayor of the City of Anderson on July 23, 1912, of carrying concealed weapon, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of the city of Anderson. Appeal taken to the Circuit Court, which was affirmed by Judge S. W. G. Shipp, on January 14, 1913.

This case, being tried before the Mayor of Anderson, the defendant presented a duly signed commission from the Governor, by which it was shown that he was to do some certain detective work around Anderson, and in the county of Anderson. The Mayor held that the commission was not binding on his Court, and the defendant was convicted of carrying concealed weapons and sentenced as above mentioned. Upon appeal being taken to the Circuit Court, the Circuit Judge sustained the Mayor's sentence.



With all due difference to the Circuit Judge, the Governor does not think it good law; therefore, the defendant was granted a pardon, to uphold the authority given Cheshire in the commission granted to him by the Governor.

Pardon dated January 27, 1913.

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COOK, BOSS, or J. A. COOK (white): Convicted at the February, 1906, term of Court for Hampton county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, on September 8, 1911.

A petition has now been presented, signed by Magistrate E. A. Zeigler; H. L. Solomons, Intendant of the town of Estill, S. C.; M. M. Chisholm, Cashier of the Bank of Estill; Clerk of Court E. M. Peeples; Postmaster J. W. Peeples, Jr.; County Supervisor B. H. Tuten; County Commissioners P. E. Terry and D. P. Padgett; Dr. Johnson Peeples; A. L. Youmans, Clerk and Treasurer of the town of Estill; Rev. E. N. Nungzer; Dr. E. H. Wyman, and many other prominent citizens of the town of Estill and the county of Hampton, attesting to the excellent conduct of the defendant since he has been out on parole, and praying that a pardon be now granted to him in order that his citizenship may be restored.

Upon the petitions presented, the defendant was granted a full pardon on May 29, 1913.

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DAVIS, JAMES (white): Convicted before Magistrate James H. Fowles, Jr., at Columbia, S. C., on October 22, 1913, of breach of trust, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Richland county.

The following statement was made by the defendant:

"I was convicted before Magistrate James H. Fowles, Jr., at Columbia, S. C., on October 22, 1913, of breach of trust, and fined \$25 or thirty days imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county.

Mrs. Jennie Dunbar, of Columbia, S. C., requested me, if I ever went to Parr Shoals, to collect \$10 from O. E. Charles, for board money which he owed her, stating at the time that she would pay my railroad fare to Parr Shoals and return and allow me a commission for collecting the same. Sometime in September I went to

Parr Shoals, saw E. O. Charles, and he paid me \$10 for Mrs. Dunbar. At the same time, he paid me \$3.75, which he owed me. I came to Columbia, and after deducting my fee for collecting the money (\$1.25), and railroad fare, \$1.30, instead of turning over to Mrs. Dunbar the balance, I gave her \$8, a receipt for which \$8 I hold, dated September 15, 1913. Notwithstanding the fact that I hold the above mentioned receipt, she swore out a warrant against me, and I was convicted before Magistrate Fowles for breach of trust, as above state. (Signed) JAMES DAVIS.

Columbia, S. C., October 23, 1913."

The above-mentioned receipt has been placed on file in the Governor's office, along with the above statement and the petition presented in behalf of Davis.

The petition is signed by several of the members of the Columbia Fire Department, of which Davis is an employee, and some citizens of Columbia. In view of the facts presented, the defendant was granted a full and free pardon on October 23, 1913.

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DOCKINS, WILL, *alias* WILL DAWKINS (colored): Convicted before Magistrate Kirkland, Aiken county, May 20, 1913, of carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 or to serve thirty days upon the public works or in jail.

The following communications were received from Solicitor R. L. Gunter, and Chief of Police of Aiken, S. C.:

"Aiken, S. C., May 21, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: At the request of Mr. B. A. Wharton, who is a deputy of the Insurance Commissioner, I write you concerning a negro by the name of Will Dawkins. This negro was employed by Mr. Wharton to assist him in the investigation of the fire which burned a Mr. Bryant's barn and mules some time ago, and for which a reward was offered for the apprehension of the party setting fire to the same.

This negro was in the community pretending to be some kind of a doctor, and had made some progress in the case, when several negroes, who were suspected of being connected with the fire, came to the place where he stayed at night; called him out; knocked him down and beat him up very badly and threatened to kill him.

Will Dawkins swore out a warrant for these parties for assault and battery with intent to kill, and had them bound over to the Court of General Sessions for same. The white people who have these negroes employed endeavored to get Dawkins to settle the case, offering him different amounts for the same. He refused to do so; after which they took out warrants in Aiken county for Dawkins, alleging that he practiced medicine contrary to the laws of the State, and also for carrying concealed weapons. On these charges he was tried, as I have heard, and convicted, and sentenced to a term on the chain gang.

As the trouble which this man got into was solely on account of his service under Mr. Wharton, and as there is no doubt in my mind that these prosecutions are for the sole purpose of trying to force him to make up the case which he has against these parties, I think it is just and right that a pardon should be granted to him, so that he can proceed with the investigation which these proceedings has stopped, and I trust that you can consistently grant the pardon when the matter is presented to you by Mr. Wharton.

Yours most truly,

(Signed) R. L. GUNTER."

"Aiken, S. C., May 21, 1913.

To His Excellency, the Governor, the Honorable Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Honored Sir: This is to petition you to remove sentence recently passed upon one Will Dockins, colored, by Magistrate Kirkland, of or near Monetta. The case is as follows:

Dockins is a negro, who, unable to do strong physical labor, is regularly employed by me to do detective work among negroes in this city and county.

Recently, Mr. B. A. Wharton, deputy to Mr. McMaster, the State Insurance Commissioner, was in this county investigating the alleged incendiary burning of property belonging to Jno. M. Bryant. Mr. Wharton desired someone, preferably a negro, to go into the Eureka and Monetta territory to investigate the matter and obtain if possible information on the matter from the negroes of that vicinity. Some of them recognized him and attacked him. He returned here and had issued a warrant against them, charging assault and battery. And in return, apparently for spite work, they had issued against him a warrant for carrying concealed weapon. He was tried and



convicted, and given a sentence of \$25 or thirty days, and is now in jail.

Morally, the negro, on such a mission, was warranted in carrying a weapon. He is a good detective and has rendered me much valuable assistance, and I feel that you will appreciate the merits of the case, and relieve the darkey of the sentence imposed.

Awaiting your action in the matter, I beg to remain, sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. E. GEORGE,  
Chief of Police, Aiken, S. C."

Upon the above statement of facts, the defendant was granted a pardon on May 22, 1913.

DRAKE, CHARLES (colored): Convicted before Magistrate W. C. Harrison, at Reidville, Spartanburg county, South Carolina, on February 28, 1912, of petit larceny, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$35.

Upon the following request from Solicitor A. E. Hill, a pardon was issued to this defendant in order that his citizenship might be restored, so that he could be used as a witness in the case mentioned:

"Spartanburg, S. C., September 6, 1913.

Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: Charles Drake, a negro, was convicted on February 28, 1912, before Magistrate W. C. Harrison, at Reidville, Spartanburg county, S. C., on the charge of petit larceny, and fined \$35, which fine he paid.

This negro is a most material witness in the case of the State v. Will Hughes, who is to be tried for murder at the approaching special term of Court.

I would be glad if you would pardon Charles Drake in order to restore his citizenship, that I may use him as a witness for the State in the case against Hughes.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) A. E. HILL,

Pardon granted September 10, 1913.

Solicitor."

FERGUSON, ALEX. (colored): Convicted by Magistrate James H. Fowles, at Columbia, S. C., July 1, 1913, of failure to pay com-



mutation road tax, and sentenced to thirty days imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county.

The following petition and affidavit were submitted:

"State of South Carolina, County of Richland—Petition.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina:

The petition of Alex. Ferguson would respectfully show:

That he was on the first day of July, 1913, arrested and carried before Jas. H. Fowles, Magistrate, charged with failure to pay his commutation tax, a misdemeanor under the statute law of the State of South Carolina.

That upon his arraignment he entered a plea of guilty.

That this plea having been accepted by the Court, a sentence of thirty days, at hard labor upon the public roads, was given him without the alternative of a fine.

That your petitioner is well able to pay any reasonable fine which might have been imposed upon him in lieu and instead of a prison sentence, and respectfully submits that under the facts and circumstances and under the law in such cases made and provided that he should have been allowed the alternative of a fine.

That your petitioner is and has always been a peaceful and law-abiding citizen of the county of Richland, and during his life has accumulated means and property, and his failure to pay his commutation tax was purely an oversight and upon being arrested frankly admitted his mistake and guilt.

Wherefore, your petitioner prays, either that he be allowed the alternative of a fine or that he be paroled pending subsequent good behavior.

(Signed) ALEX. FERGUSON,

Columbia, S. C., July 8, 1913.

Petitioner."

"State of South Carolina, County of Richland.

Personally comes before me Alex. Ferguson, who, being duly sworn, says that he has read the foregoing petition and that the same is true of his own knowledge.

(Signed) ALEX. FERGUSON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of July, 1913.

(Signed) PAUL A. COOPER, (L. S.)

Notary Public for South Carolina."

The Constitution of the State of South Carolina, in my opinion, clearly provides that a magistrate can fine a man *not more than one hundred dollars or thirty days in prison*, and he most assuredly has

no right to sentence a man to serve without the alternative of a fine, and for that reason, the defendant was granted a full and free pardon on July 8, 1913.

GILMER, E. S. (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and recommended to mercy and sentenced to pay a fine of \$150 or to serve six months upon the public works of Greenville county.

Petition was presented by Judge John T. Bramlett, of Greenville:

A letter was submitted from Mr. H. C. McKnight, in which he states that the defendant, Gilmer, was in his employ and had a right to be in his office and to defend the same against all intruders.

The prosecutor, Gosnell, went into the office where the defendant was, in a very angry and threatening manner, and after some words, offered Gilmer \$50 to whip him, shook his finger in his face and finally drew his gun and shot Gilmer in the hip, and the defendant, Gilmer, shot Gosnell in the cheek. There were no eyewitnesses to the affair, it seems. Both parties were placed on trial and the defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of \$150 or to serve six months upon the public works. Judge Rice, in pronouncing sentence, stated that he did not consider the offense of a very serious nature, and in his talk intimated that one party was about as much to blame as the other. The following letter was received from Prosecuting Attorney James H. Price:

"Greenville, S. C., September 27, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I am informed that you will be presented shortly with a petition for pardon for E. S. Gilmer. Mr. Gilmer was sentenced to serve six months or pay a fine of \$150. I cheerfully recommend that the pardon be granted, as I think the matter has already cost Mr. Gilmer far more than the fine.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) JAS. H. PRICE."

The petition, setting out the facts as above stated, asking for the pardon, is signed by H. P. Burbage, Esq., Probate Judge Bramlett, Sheriff Rector, Register Mesne Conveyance Ingram, Dr. J. P. Carlisle, County Treasurer Foster, David W. Smoak, Esq., and several other prominent citizens of Greenville, who state in the petition that they are perfectly familiar with the case.

Upon this showing the defendant was granted a pardon. Pardon dated October 3, 1913.

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GODFREY, THOMAS (white): Convicted at the November, 1905, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, on May 20, 1911, the reasons therefor being assigned at that time.

Godfrey is very old, nearly blind and in very bad health. He has made a good citizen since being paroled, and now asks that a full pardon be granted him in order that his citizenship may be restored in his old age.

Upon the representations made, and his physical condition, pardon was granted June 20, 1913.

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JOE GREENE (colored): Convicted by Magistrates M. C. Harrelson (Mullins, S. C.) and S. G. Miles (Marion, S. C.), on March 24, 1913 (three cases), of petit larceny, and sentenced to twenty days, thirty days and thirty days, respectively, upon the public works of Marion county.

Petition was presented, signed by Magistrate L. S. Smith, Col. Jas. Stackhouse, R. L. Stackhouse, Superintendent of Education W. C. Rogers, Col. James Norton, and others, in which it is stated that Joe Greene is a material witness in a case of housebreaking and larceny. Magistrate L. S. Smith writes that "Greene was convicted before Magistrate M. C. Harrelson, at Mullins, S. C., on the 24th day of March, 1913, of petit larceny, on two counts, and sentenced twenty and thirty days, respectively, and also convicted on the same day by Magistrate S. G. Miles, at Marion, S. C., on one count, charge petit larceny, and sentenced thirty days. I wish to state just here that the negro's offense for which he has served eighty days was for chicken stealing. The chief reason, as stated before, why I wish a pardon in this instance is that this negro is implicated in a case of housebreaking and larceny, in which one Mack Johnson is the chief actor. Greene confesses his guilt and implicates Johnson, and as I understand the law, it would be impossible to convict Johnson on Greene's testimony unless Greene is pardoned, and as you stated at the end of your letter, it is very possible that this negro, Greene,



should be in the Penitentiary, and unless the unexpected happens he will get there on his own plea at next term of Court in Marion."

Upon the petition presented, and the facts as stated by Magistrate L. S. Smith, Joe Greene was granted a pardon on September 13, 1913, for the purpose of restoring his citizenship, in order that he may be used as a witness in a case of housebreaking and larceny.

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GRIFFIN, HAMP. (white): Convicted in Recorder's Court, for city of Spartanburg, South Carolina, on January 6, 1910, of larceny, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$2.50 or to serve five days upon the public works of said city.

At the request of Col. B. G. Landrum, of Spartanburg, S. C., and others, this man was pardoned for the purpose of restoring his citizenship, it appearing to be the only transaction of the kind he was ever mixed up in, and since which time he has lived honestly and honorable. Affidavit was also submitted as to the nature and extent of the crime.

Upon the showing made, the defendant having served the penalty imposed by the Court, he was granted a pardon for the purpose of restoring his citizenship, on September 5, 1913.

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GUNTER, ELZY (or E. L. GUNTER) (white): Convicted at the June, 1895, term of Court for Aiken county, of incest, and sentenced to four years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Senator W. H. Sharpe, of Lexington county, in which it is stated that the defendant served the sentence imposed; and, that since serving his term, he has lived a good, christian and upright life and has made a good, law-abiding citizen, and ask that his citizenship be restored. The petition is signed by Representative Busbee, Dr. L. B. Etheredge, Magistrate Garvin, Sheriff Rabon, Solicitor R. L. Gunter, Senator John F. Williams, and a good number of the other reputable citizens of his county.

Upon this showing, the defendant was pardoned, in order that his citizenship might be restored, on March 13, 1913.

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HENDERSON, BOYD (white): Convicted before Magistrate D. L. Leonard, of Spartanburg county, in 1899, of petit larceny, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$5 or to serve ten days upon the public works of said county.



Petition was presented by Sheriff J. Perry Poole, of Greenville county. The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation:

"17. Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Boyd Henderson, Spartanburg county, convicted of petit larceny, sentenced to ten days or pay a fine of \$5, 1899.

This was thirteen years ago, and the petitioner at that time was only sixteen years of age. The crime consisted of stealing a water-melon in company with some other boys. The petition is for pardon to restore citizenship, and the authorities of Spartanburg county ask it on the ground that they need him for a witness. He paid his fine at the time of trial. Under these circumstances we feel that his prayer should be answered, and we recommend that he be given a pardon.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, the defendant was granted a pardon, in order to restore his citizenship, he having paid the fine imposed in said case. Pardon dated March 6, 1913.

HIGGINGBOTHAM, J. J. (white): Convicted at the February, 1910, term of Court for Aiken county, of larceny of one bale of cotton, and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment.

The Board of Pardons, under date of April 29, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* J. J. Higgingsbotham, Aiken; larceny of bale of cotton; eighteen months; February 8, 1910.

This is a petition to restore citizenship by pardon, and is based upon the excellent conduct of the prisoner during his service of sentence. It seems that he received fifty-six days' credit on this account. We recommend that citizenship be restored.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a pardon, in order that his citizenship may be restored, he having served the sentence imposed upon him, May 3, 1913.

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HINSON, J. E. (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Marlboro county, of aggravated assault and battery, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works of Marlboro county.

Petitions were presented by J. K. Owens, Esq., of Bennettsville, S. C., in which it is stated that the defendant was convicted of aggravated assault and battery upon one E. B. Barber, and that the Judge sentenced the defendant to serve six months upon the public works, without the alternative of a fine. That since that time the prosecutor has received \$700 on some kind of an indemnity bond for this assault and battery. It seems strange to me that this \$700 did not go into the treasury of Marlboro county, instead of into the individual pocket of the prosecutor, and why the Judge allowed such procedure, I am not able to understand, and without knowing his reason and the exact nature of the bond, I have no criticism to make of his action. However, I am satisfied that if he had put the sentence in the alternative, that it would not have been as high as \$700.

The petitions for pardon of this man, in which the above facts are set out, are signed by County Supervisor Frank Manning, Jr., former Senator Thos. I. Rodgers, former Representative J. P. Gibson, Alderman L. B. Roper, of the city of Bennettsville, and some of the jurors who sat upon the case, besides a number of the other citizens of the city of Bennettsville and the county of Marlboro.

In view of the fact that the prosecutor received the money above mentioned, and the defendant having lost his position of rural policeman on account of the conviction, I think his punishment has been more than sufficient, and that the prosecutor has been fully paid for the beating that he got.

Upon these conditions, and the petitions presented, the defendant was granted a full and free pardon on November 25, 1913.

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HINSON, QUINCY (white): Convicted at the May, 1907, term of Court for Horry county, of adultery, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$300 or to serve one year upon the public works of Horry county, or in the State Penitentiary.

A petition was presented by Hon. James Stackhouse, of Mullins, S. C., in which it is set forth that Hinson plead guilty to a charge of adultery in Court of General Sessions, held at Conway, S. C., May 28, 1907; a fine was laid by Geo. E. Prince, presiding Judge, and said fine was paid by Quincy Hinson. The petition is signed by the Clerk of Court, County Auditor, County Treasurer, and others, in which they request that the disability be removed in order that Hinson may exercise all the functions of citizenship, and that justice has been done and the law vindicated.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a pardon on April 3, 1913, in order that his citizenship might be restored.

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HOLLAND, F. L., JR. (white): Convicted before Magistrate James H. Fowles, Jr., of Columbia, Richland county, South Carolina, of breach of the peace (violating Section 22 of the Criminal Code), and sentenced to thirty days upon the public works of Richland county.

This man was convicted before Magistrate Fowles for using profane language in his own house, and sentenced by the Magistrate to imprisonment for thirty days without the alternative of a fine. The following letter to Magistrate Fowles is sufficient reason for explanation of the Governor's action in the matter:

"March 24, 1913.

Mr. James H. Fowles, Jr., Magistrate, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: Your letter of March 19, in reference to the case of one F. L. Holland, Jr., received.

In reply, the Governor directs me to call your attention to the fact that Section 22 of the Criminal Code, 1912, provides for punishment in such cases as provided for in Section 21 of the Criminal Code, 1912, which section provides 'They may punish by fine not exceeding \$100, *or* imprisonment in the jail or house of correction not exceeding thirty days, etc.'

While Section 20 of the Criminal Code of 1912 seems to give the power to Magistrates of sentencing singly, or in the alternative, if you will notice Section 21, Article 5, of the Constitution, you will see that it provides that such jurisdiction shall not extend to cases where the punishment exceeds a fine of \$100 *or* imprisonment for thirty days; therefore, the Governor directs me to say that, in his judgment, under the Constitution, no Magistrate has the right to



punish a man in the singular, but it must be in the alternative; and, for this reason, Holland has this day been granted a pardon.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) JNO. K. AULL,  
Private Secretary."

The only additional reason being that every man has a right to conduct his own home as he pleases, so long as he does not disturb his neighbors.

Petition was presented, signed by several near neighbors of this defendant, including Mrs. Westberry, Mrs. Easterling, Mrs. Bradford, Miss Rucker, Mrs. Rucker, Mrs. Shaley, Mrs. Christopher, and others, in which they ask that the said Holland be pardoned. In addition to the petition, affidavits were presented from T. S. Easterling and W. M. Westberry, in which they state that Magistrate Fowles admitted that he was influenced in his opinion because of rumors he had heard of the defendant's misconduct; that the evidence before him was subject to a reasonable doubt, of which he would have given the defendant if the defendant had come before him as a stranger.

Upon these affidavits and the petition submitted, the defendant was granted a pardon on March 25, 1913.

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HOLLINGSWORTH, F. P. (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Richland county, of obtaining goods under false pretenses, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$300, or to serve six months upon the public works of Richland county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The following petition, certificate and letter were submitted:

"State of South Carolina, County of Richland.

*In re* F. P. Hollingsworth, Petitioner.

To the Honorable Cole. L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina:

Your petitioner, F. P. Hollingsworth, respectfully shows:

1. That heretofore, about two and one-half years ago, petitioner and F. J. McIver had some business dealings with horses in which the petitioner borrowed certain sums of money for purchase and handling of horses. That upon the winding up of the financial arrangements, McIver claimed that Hollingsworth had not carried

out his part as agreed and that there was yet money due him from Hollingsworth borrowed for a certain purpose.

2. That McIver finally swore out a warrant for Hollingsworth and indicted him for '*obtaining goods under false pretenses*' about two years ago. That the trial of Hollingsworth was put off from time to time by McIver, and about two months ago, McIver informed Hollingsworth that he would drop the matter for some concessions on his part. That there was an arrangements made between the parties that Hollingsworth was to pay part on a motorcycle to be ordered by Hollingsworth's son, whereupon McIver informed Hollingsworth that he had made all arrangements with the Solicitor and that the case had been dropped.

3. That the said motorcycle has been ordered as agreed, and is now en route for Columbia.

4. That on the 24th day of September, 1913, Hollingsworth was in Winnsboro, S. C., attending to his affairs, and by chance saw in the paper that he, in his absence, had been convicted of the charge indicted for.

5. That immediately Hollingsworth came to Columbia, S. C., and delivered himself up to the Sheriff, and received the sealed verdict of six months or a fine of \$300.

6. That petitioner is now in the custody of the Sheriff; that the Circuit Judge has disbanded this term of Court for General Sessions; that petitioner has no way now of reopening the case, and that had he been notified that he was expecting to be tried he would have been present for the same.

7. That petitioner relied upon the statements of McIver and did not attend Court, and that for these reasons alone was he absent from the trial.

8. That the circumstances of his conviction have taken petitioner at a great disadvantage, and that he now has no adequate remedy at law, and that the punishment is proper under usual circumstances, yet the incidents relative to this, warrant some extrinsic interference, otherwise justice will be miscarried.

Wherefore, your petitioner prays that your Excellency do allow such witnesses as he may consider proper to appear before him, and that the petitioner be heard in his own behalf, and that such clemency be given him as the sound judgment of the Governor may dictate, and your petitioner will ever pray.

(Signed) F. P. HOLLINGSWORTH.

Columbia, S. C., September 25, 1913.

Petitioner."

"State of South Carolina, County of Richland.

Personally comes F. P. Hollingsworth, who, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That he is the petitioner in the foregoing petition; that he has read over the foregoing petition; that he knows the allegations therein to be true.

(Signed) F. P. HOLLINGSWORTH.

Sworn to before me this 27th day of September, 1913.

(Signed) JAMES E. HAMMOND, (Seal)

Notary Public for South Carolina."

"In reference to the case of F. P. Hollingsworth:

Mr. Hollingsworth came to my office on the morning of the 24th and told me that he saw in the papers that he had been convicted of obtaining goods under false pretenses, and wanted to know what could be done. I went over to the Sheriff's office with him, and we there opened the sealed verdict which had been left against him, he having been convicted during his absence. It was impossible to make a motion for a new trial, Court having adjourned the preceding day.

I consulted with Mr. Hollingsworth's son, and he confirmed the statement made by Mr. Hollingsworth, that he had adjusted the matter with Mr. McIver, by ordering a motorcycle, for which Mr. Hollingsworth's son was to relinquish his commission and Mr. Hollingsworth was to pay a part down on it. Mr. Hollingsworth's son informed me that the motorcycle had been ordered and is now on the way.

To my best knowledge and belief, if he had known he was going to be tried, he would have been present.

(Signed) JAMES H. HAMMOND,

Attorney for F. P. Hollingsworth.

Columbia, S. C., September 27, 1913."

"1918 Sumter Street, Columbia, S. C., September 25, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease.

Dear Sir: It may be that you know of the misfortune that has befallen us. Mr. G. J. McIver, some time ago, placed a case in Court against my husband, which was a minor case, and the last term of Court my husband attended Court and McIver did not appear against him, and Pick saw him and he, McIver, told him he never would again, and wanted nothing more to do with it, and two weeks ago Pick went to McIver and they made a satisfactory settle-



ment in the presence of witnesses, and McIver told him he would go then and have it wiped off of the book, or thrown out. Then he went about his duties and did not know anything about it until he saw it in the *Record*, or paper, then he went and surrendered and received his sentence, which was six months or \$300. It is impossible for us to raise any money, as his daily labor was our dependence for living, day by day, and at this age, I can't work and have a little girl to care for and support. Now, I humbly beg you in the most trying time of all my forty-six years of life for help, by a pardon granted by you is the only resort and the only thing that will bring any sunshine or peace or consideration to us that are weeping with sore hearts. We know, and the people know that knows about the case, an innocent man has been convicted. If I did not know this, I would not ask this. The plaintiff went around and asked if Pick was in town, and finding him out, he pushed the case. He knew he had no case that was anything. Now, I am at the mercy of the people. My father having died about one year ago, and no one to go to for help or instructions. Now, I humbly beg you to restore to me what was once a happy family in sending my husband home to me, and we know God will bless you, as he has other deeds you have done. I am humbly awaiting your kind favor.

Your friend,

(Signed) MRS. F. P. HOLLINGSWORTH."

It seems from the petition, which is sworn to by Mr. Hollingsworth, and which, if it is not true, he can be prosecuted and convicted of perjury, which is a more serious offense than the one for which he has been convicted, sets out the fact that the prosecutor and the defendant had made a compromise, and upon this compromise the defendant did not attend Court, and that after the compromise had been affected that he had gone on about his business. The prosecutor came in, took advantage of the defendant's absence, and secured a conviction. I am satisfied that if the Solicitor had known the circumstances, he would not have allowed the case to go to trial; and, I am further satisfied that if Judge Memminger had known of the trick that was being played, that under no circumstances or conditions would he have allowed the case to have gone to trial. Therefore, upon the showing made, the defendant is granted a pardon. Pardon dated September 27, 1913.

HORTON, EUGENE (white): Convicted at the October, 1908, term of Court for Hampton county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment.

This defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, on December 24, 1912, upon the following recommendation of the Board of Pardons:

"74.

Columbia, S. C., July 6, 1912.

To His Excellency, Gov. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: We respectfully return to you the petition of Eugene Horton, Hampton county, charged with manslaughter, sentenced five years, October, 1908.

This is a very large petition, and a great many of the signers thereon are known to a member of this board, as well as many of the circumstances attending the case and the trial. These facts move us to recommend a parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

R. MAYS CLEVELAND,

Board of Pardons."

A petition has now been presented, signed by the Superintendent of Education, Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff, County Auditor, Clerk of Court, Treasurer, Supervisor, County Commissioner, and other citizens of Hampton county, in which they state that Horton, since the granting of his parole, has conducted himself as a good, law-abiding citizen, and ask that a full pardon be now granted to him.

In view of the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, and the petition presented attesting to his good conduct since he was granted a parole, he has this day been granted a full pardon—May 23, 1913.

HORTON, D. T. (white): Convicted at the October, 1908, term of Court for Hampton county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment.

This defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, on November 29, 1911, my reasons therefor being as follows:

"The petition was presented by Mr. J. P. Youmans, of Brunson, S. C., and signed by county officials, jurors, many of the prominent citizens of the county, and endorsed as follows by Solicitor James E. Davis: 'I am satisfied that the defendants should be pardoned; the

testimony was to the effect that the defendants were greatly provoked by the conduct of the deceased, and I do not think that it warranted the severe punishment imposed; I therefore earnestly recommend an absolute pardon. Respectfully submitted, Jas. E. Davis, ex-Solicitor.' Also the following endorsement by Hon. John S. Wilson, Circuit Judge: 'I recommend this pardon. Oct. 10, 1911. (Signed) John S. Wilson, Circuit Judge.'"

A petition has now been presented, signed by the Superintendent of Education, Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff, County Auditor, Clerk of Court, Treasurer, Supervisor, County Commissioner, and other citizens of Hampton county, in which they state that Horton, since the granting of his parole, has conducted himself as a good, law-abiding citizen, and ask that a full pardon be now granted to him.

In view of the petitions submitted, the recommendation of the Judge and Solicitor, the defendant has this day, May 23, 1913, been granted a full pardon.

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HUGHES, CLIFFORD (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of larceny, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment upon the public works of Greenville county.

Petition was presented in which it is shown that this boy was the joint owner of a cow with his father, and that he disposed of the cow and failed to account to his father for his share; and, when the boy was prosecuted, he plead guilty and was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment upon the public works—three months of which he has already served.

A letter was also received from his father, in which he states: "That he and the boy owned the cow together and that the boy took the cow off without consulting him, and that he went off and reported the loss to the police and began to hunt for the cow; that the police found the cow, and it was afterwards discovered that his son had sold it; that the police refused to allow him to drop the case, but made him prosecute it, with the result that the boy plead guilty, and he begs that the boy be now released."

Also, a letter from the mother of the boy, was submitted, in which she states that the boy had an interest in the cow.

I am satisfied that if these facts had been set forth before Judge Rice as fully as they are here that he would never have given the boy



more than a ninety day sentence, which he has served, or possibly would have acquitted him on the ground of joint ownership.

In addition to these letters, petition was presented, requesting the pardon of the boy, signed by the boy's father, County Commissioners Bramlett and Peden, Sheriff Hendrix Rector, Probate Judge John T. Bramlett, Dr. J. P. Carlisle, David W. Smoak, Esq., and other reputable citizens which state the facts as given in the letters of the father and mother.

Upon this showing the boy has been granted a full and free pardon.

Pardon dated December 23, 1913.

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HUGHES, ROSA ANNA (white): Convicted at the October, 1911, term of General Sessions Court for Georgetown county, Judge George E. Prince presiding, of adultery, and sentenced to imprisonment for twelve months in the State Penitentiary.

Defendant has served part of her time. The petition states that "her mother is now paralyzed and incapable of attending to her own wants, much less the wants of the small children, and that it will be a godsend to the children and to the old mother to have Rosa Anna pardoned, so that she can minister to the wants and needs of the children and mother." This petition is signed by a large number of the people of Georgetown county, including several of the county officials, and is accompanied by a personal letter from the Mayor of Georgetown.

In view of the defendant having served as much of the sentence as she has, and the very strong petition, upon this showing defendant is pardoned. Pardon dated May 13, 1913.

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HUDSON, JOHN (white), HUDSON, MONEY (white): Both convicted at the November, 1903, term of Court for Oconee county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to eleven years, each, imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

These boys were released by the Penitentiary authorities this morning, they having been allowed, by the authorities, eleven months and five days for good behavior, which completed their sentences.

In view of the long sentences which they have completed, and the further fact that they were allowed eleven months and five days off on account of their good behavior while confined in the Penitentiary,

and their request that they be granted a pardon, in order that their citizenship might be restored, that they may go forth and become good citizens, a pardon was issued to each of them on December 18th, 1913, in order that their citizenship may be restored, they having served the sentence imposed upon them.

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ILLSTON, TARECIA, alias REESE ILLSTON: Convicted before Magistrate P. T. Warr, Darlington county, of petit larceny, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$2.

Solicitor J. Monroe Spears requested that pardon be issued in order that Illston might be used as a witness, his telegram reading:

"Darlington, S. C., September 15, 1913.

Gov. Cole. Blease, Columbia, S. C.:

Wire me immediately pardon for Reese Illston, who was convicted before Magistrate P. T. Warr, for petit larceny, fifteen years ago, and paid fine of \$2, when ten years old. Need his evidence at 3 o'clock in important case. Wire me my expense pardon immediately. (Signed) J. MONROE SPEARS, Solicitor."

In accordance with the above request from Solicitor Spears, the defendant was granted a pardon, for the purpose of restoring his citizenship, he having been convicted of petit larceny when ten years old, and is now needed as an important witness for the State. Pardon dated September 15, 1913.

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JACKSON, J. F. (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Jasper county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve six months upon the public works of Jasper county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented in which it is stated "that the prosecuting witness, O. P. Sauls, himself brought on the difficulty, by coming on the premises of your petitioner and assaulting him without just cause and knocked him down within ten feet of his residence, and while your petitioner was on the ground, having seen O. P. Sauls put his hand to his hip pocket, as if to draw his pistol, and believing that his life was in danger, your petitioner shot him in the leg, inflicting a slight flesh wound. That he would not have been con-

victed could he have obtained the testimony of his only witness, J. B. Dean, who, unfortunately, died before the case was tried."

The petition is signed by Col. Thos. Talbird; James M. Rhett; F. P. Colcock; Jas. S. Claghorn; G. Sanders, County Treasurer; J. B. Black, County Auditor; S. H. Rodgers, Clerk Court, Beaufort county; Dr. Edward F. Parker, of Charleston; Congressman James F. Byrnes; Hon. C. E. Perry, Attorney General Peebles, and many others.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a full pardon. Pardon dated November 1, 1913.

KAIGLER, GEORGE F. (white): Convicted at January term, 1912, of General Sessions Court for Richland county, Judge Ernest Gary presiding, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years upon the public works.

Petition is presented by Hon. H. C. Paulling, of St. Matthews, signed by a large number of the citizens of Richland county and also many citizens of the county of Calhoun, the home of the defendant. The petition is also signed by ten of the jurors who tried the case, and has the following endorsement from Solicitor Cobb:

"I am forced to the conclusion that this is one case where the jury may have been mistaken, and therefore recommend executive clemency.

Respectfully submitted,

W. HAMPTON COBB."

And the following endorsement from the trial Judge:

"I concur in the recommendation of Solicitor Cobb.

Very respectfully,

Sept. 9, 1913.

ERNEST GARY."

In view of the large petition and the recommendation by so many of the jurors, and also the recommendation of the Solicitor and trial Judge, the defendant was granted a pardon on September 16, 1913.

KING, HERMAN E. (white): Convicted at the April, 1900, term of Court for Greenwood county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary. Defendant was paroled, December 21, 1910, by former Governor Ansel.



The Board of Pardons, on July 3, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"19. Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Herman E. King, Greenwood; murder, with recommendation to mercy; life imprisonment; April 2, 1900.

This petitioner was paroled by Governor Ansel on December 21, 1910. It now comes to us as a petition to restore citizenship in full. This is recommended by good substantial citizens, who certify to his good character, and we therefore recommend that he be granted a full pardon. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon the recommendation above quoted, a pardon was granted the petitioner, in order that his citizenship might be restored. Pardon dated July 8, 1913.

LEE, C. W. (white): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Darlington county, of obtaining signatures on promissory note by false pretenses, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$200 and imprisonment upon the public works of Darlington county for six months.

Petition was presented personally by the Honorable Josh P. Kirven and Mr. B. L. Outlaw.

The affidavit of Geo. H. Edwards, Esq., is herewith submitted in full;

"State of South Carolina, County of Darlington.

Court of General Sessions.

The State against C. W. Lee.

Indictment for Obtaining Signatures by False Pretenses.

Personally appeared before me Geo. H. Edwards, who, being duly sworn, says that he was attorney for the defendant, C. W. Lee, in the above stated case; that the offense for which the said C. W. Lee was convicted was alleged to have been committed in July, 1910, and that the warrant for his arrest was issued in July, 1912, and that the case was tried February 25, 1913; that up to the very moment of the trial propositions were made to the defendant and to deponent as attorney for the defendant by the prosecuting witness, M. S. McKinnon, and his attorney to withdraw the indictment and to have

a *nolle prosequi* entered in the case upon payment by the defendant of the sum of \$125, the face of the note described in the indictment. And this deponent further says that the said defendant has always admitted the debt and signified his intention to pay the same, but has stated to deponent that he was unable to do so on account of serious illness and hospital expenses and misfortunes which he has suffered since giving the note.

The deponent further says that he did not regard the evidence as sufficient to warrant the conviction of the defendant for the reason that the charge was based upon the statement by the defendant "that he had contracted and agreed to do certain work for D. R. Coker and A. M. McNair, which work would net him much more than any such amount," while the evidence of D. R. Coker was, that he alone had the defendant to do work for him for which he paid defendant more than \$150, and this deponent took the position that the said statement of the defendant was, by this testimony, proven to be true and not false.

(Signed) GEO. H. EDWARDS.

Sworn to before me this 22d day of April, A. D. 1913.

(Signed) W. ALBERT PARROTT,  
Clerk of Court, D. C."

In addition to the above affidavit, the testimony of M. S. McKinnon, the prosecutor in the case, and D. R. Coker was submitted. From reading the testimony, it is evidently clear that the affidavit made by Mr. Edwards is absolutely true, and in my opinion, this was simply a criminal prosecution to either frighten this man into paying a civil debt, or to force him to pay it rather than be prosecuted; and, having made it a rule since I have been Governor, to absolutely refuse to allow the criminal courts to be made collecting bureaus, and having called the matter to the attention of the General Assembly, and in addition to this, having declined requisitions whenever it appeared that they were to be used for such purposes, and in view of the affidavit herewith submitted, the defendant is hereby pardoned. Pardon granted May 9, 1913.

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MCABEE, BEN J. (white): Convicted at the May, 1908, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case on January 3, 1913:

"6.

Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Benjamin J. McAbee, Greenville county, convicted of murder, sentenced life imprisonment, May, 1908.

Solicitor Boggs recommends a pardon, and from these papers we gather that there was considerable excuse or extenuating circumstances surrounding the commission of this deed, and for these reasons we recommend a parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon this recommendation of the Board of Pardons the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 6, 1913.

A petition, signed by one hundred and twenty-one of the good, substantial citizens of Anderson county, is now presented, in which they request that a full pardon be issued to McAbee. Also, the following communication was received from Magistrate S. E. Whitten:

"Pendleton, S. C., August 25, 1913.

Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Gov. Blease: Ben J. McAbee, whom you paroled March 6, 1913, and who is asking you for a pardon, has lived about five miles east of this place since he was paroled, and I have had considerable opportunity to keep acquainted with his actions, and I say without hesitancy that he has, to the best of my knowledge, conducted himself in a straightforward and upright manner. A goodly number of the members of Corinth Church, where he, so I am informed, attends Sunday school and church regularly, are customers of mine, and they every one speak of Ben in the very highest terms.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) S. E. WHITTEN."

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a full and free pardon on August 27, 1913.

McDONALD, WILL (white): Convicted at the November, 1905, term of Court for York county, of robbery, and sentenced to two years and six months imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.



The Board of Pardons, on May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"90. Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Will McDonald, York county, convicted of robbery, sentenced two years and six months, November 29, 1905.

This petition is to restore citizenship, and is signed by the Railroad Commissioner, W. C. Wilburn, Magistrate Conner, Superintendent of Education, Counsel, Probate Judge Williams, Chief of Police Sanders and others. The special reason for the granting of this petition is that the petitioner has recently been appointed Constable and that he may be able to perform these duties, we recommend a pardon. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons."

The defendant having served the sentence imposed upon him, and, upon the above recommendation from the Board of Pardons, he was granted a pardon on May 10, 1913, in order that his citizenship might be restored.

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McMANUS, W. C. (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Chesterfield county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Sheriff D. P. Douglass, of Chesterfield county. It is signed by Mr. I. P. Mangum, Clerk of Court, Sheriff Douglass, Senator George K. Laney, Representative W. P. Odom, Deputy Sheriff P. C. McLaurin, County Treasurer W. A. Douglass, Probate Judge M. J. Hough. The foreman of the jury, who tried the case, states in a letter, dated April 11, 1913: "I was foreman of the jury on Dr. W. C. McManus' case, and after reconsidering the matter, I signed a petition for his pardon, and I am greatly in hopes that you will grant same. (Signed) W. M. Miller." The petition is also signed by all twelve members of the jury who tried the case, in which they state, "respectfully request the Governor to pardon the said McManus, as, while technically guilty, he acted under such circumstances as warrant the extension of mercy

to him in our judgment." The petition is also signed by an unusual large number of the very best citizens of Chesterfield county, including doctors, bankers, farmers, carpenters, and others, entirely too numerous to set out here, with many personal letters asking that this young man be pardoned. Also, by the Rev. L. D. Bass. In fact, the petition is one of the strongest and largest that has been presented to this office since I have been Governor.

Upon the showing made, I have seen fit, and do hereby grant to the said W. C. McManus, a full and free pardon. Pardon dated April 12, 1913.

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MARTINS, JIM H. (white): Convicted at the July, 1910, term of Court for Oconee county, of violation of the Dispensary Law, and sentenced to pay a fine of one hundred dollars or to serve three months in jail. (Sentence was suspended on account of defendant having been badly burned by gasoline—arrested in September, 1913, to complete sentence.)

This party was tried in the United States Court for this offense and served two months in jail for the same. He was later carried into the State Courts and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months in jail, which fine he paid. I do not believe it is right or just, nor do I believe it is strictly legal to thus punish any man—forcing him to serve out a sentence in the Federal Courts, and also being punished by the State Courts, for the same offense; and, for this reason, upon proper petition being presented in his behalf, a pardon has been granted to him. Pardon dated October 11, 1913.

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MARTIN, WILLIAM F. (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Richland county, of manslaughter, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The sentence was the lightest that could be imposed under the statute. It seems that the defendant is a young man; a widower, with five small children. It is true that he was where he had no business, but for that, many others who are married, with and without children, are found often in the same kind of houses, and sometimes possibly in worse, for they do not always confine themselves to their own race.

It was an unfortunate occurrence, but he bears the name of one of my best friends during my boyhood days. While, of course, this

would not be sufficient excuse or reason to grant him a pardon, still, bearing the exact name of his father, I know that if he was living it would be a great humiliation to see his boy's name, which was his own, written upon the Penitentiary records.

The petition for his pardon is signed by a large number of the best business and professional men of the county of Richland, and was presented by the prince of merchants, the Honorable John L. Minnaugh, and by Mr. D. H. Goble, and on it are found the names of H. N. Edmunds, C. H. Flinn, Andrew Patterson, Jr., County Supervisor; Howard Caldwell, E. B. Rawls, Sylvan Brothers, James Macdonald, N. H. Driggers, A. D. Palmer, J. H. Davis, Lee A. Lorick, George W. Collins, W. J. May, W. D. Lever, W. H. Monckton, Jr., E. P. and F. A. Davis, H. A. Taylor, W. B. Sloan, George R. Rembert, member of the House of Representatives; J. M. McLaughlin, and a large number of other merchants and business men, entirely too numerous to set out in this statement. There is also, accompanying this, another petition, signed by a large number of the railroad employees of the city, and still another petition signed by quite a large number of the mill boys from Ward Five, of the city of Columbia—making, in all, an unusually strong petition.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a pardon, on March 28, 1913.

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MILLER, SMITH (white): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Dillon county, of seduction, and sentenced to thirty months imprisonment upon the public works of Dillon county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The following petition was presented by Sheriff S. V. Lane, of Dillon, S. C.

“To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina:

*Whereas*, Smith Miller, of the county of Dillon, in the State of South Carolina, was at the February term of Court of General Sessions for Dillon county, upon indictment, duly issued, convicted of seduction and sentenced by the Court, which said sentence is now outstanding; and

*Whereas*, An agreement has been reached between Mary Bullock, the injured party, and the said Smith Miller, satisfactory to both parties;

Now, therefore, the undersigned respectfully petitions your Excel-



lency to grant him a pardon, fully relieving him of the penalty imposed by the said Court, and restoring him to full citizenship.

(Signed) MARY BULLOCK, Prosecutrix;

JNO. C. BETHEA,

Signed with undersanding above agreement  
is carried out, Clerk of Court;

C. G. BRUCE, Auditor;

W. McINNIS, Treasurer;

B. F. EDWARDS,

S. V. LANE, County Sheriff;

GIBSON & MULLER,

Attys. for Miss Mary Bullock;

R. J. MOODY,

JOE CABELL DAVIS, Judge of Probate;

J. W. ROWLAND,

L. B. HASELDEN, Attorney;

J. H. MANNING, Senator;

G. G. McLAURIN,

JOE P. LANE, Attorney;

W. MURCHISON,

J. D. HASELDEN, Magistrate;

C. McQUEEN,

EARLE R. ELLERBE,

D. B. McINNIS, Foreman Jury;

J. H. SQUIRES, Juror;

J. A. EVANS, Juror;

T. E. BERRY, Juror;

S. E. FAIR, Juror—

(I have signed this petition with the distinct understanding that ample satisfaction and amends will be made by the defendant in this case.)

M. B. BRIGMAN, Juror;

A. G. McKAY, Juror;

J. A. McEACHERN, Juror;

B. M. PRINCE, Juror;

N. E. McQUEEN, Juror;

B. F. BOOTH, Juror;

WADE STACKHOUSE,

Chairman County Board of Commissioners  
for Dillon County.

Also, the following communication from Mr. J. B. Gibson, a member of the firm of Gibson & Muller, plaintiff's attorneys:

"Dillon, S. C., June 5, 1913.

Dear Governor: I represented Miss Mary Bullock in an action for seduction against Mr. Smith Miller. Mr. Miller has agreed to pay her one thousand dollars, and I have satisfactory security for this amount in my hands. Although it was a very deplorable case, yet I believe that under the circumstances, the lady being poor, it will be better for her to have the money to rear the child on, than for Mr. Miller to serve his sentence, and for these reasons have recommended a pardon.

Hoping to see you on the 13th, and assuring you that we will be glad to have you with us, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) J. B. GIBSON."

Upon the petition presented, and the above communication from the plaintiff's attorney, the defendant was granted a pardon on June 6, 1913.

MILLER, W. J. (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Jasper county, of assault and battery, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of said county.

Pardon granted September 22, 1913.

(See cases of C. E. and E. L. Perry for reasons in this case.)

MILLS, WILLIAM H. (white): Convicted at the July, 1907, term of Court for Cherokee county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The defendant was granted a parole on November 26, 1912, since which time he has deported himself to an extent deserving of additional executive clemency, by affidavits submitted to the General Assembly, and otherwise. In view of such conduct on his behalf, and his endeavors to lead an upright and useful life, I granted to him, on the 20th day of February, 1913, a full pardon, in order that he might exercise all the rights and privileges of citizenship in this State.

MIMS, M. J. (white): Convicted before Magistrate Ellerbe Powers, at Bennettsville, S. C., July 3, 1913, of failure to pay commutation road tax, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$7.50, or serve ten days upon the public works.

Petition was presented, signed by several of the citizens of Bennettsville, in which they state that the defendant has had a lot of sickness recently and now has sickness in his home.

It seems that this defendant is working for one dollar a day in the mill at Bennettsville; that his small son has been down sick for quite a while, and that his little girl is now sick; also, that he was sick in bed himself when the tax collector came, and he asked that he be given time to get well and go to work and pay the tax, but that as soon as he got out of bed, he was taken up, tried and sentenced as above.

In view of the statements presented, the defendant was granted a full and free pardon on July 17, 1913.

MIMS, R. L. (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Barnwell county, of disposing of property under lien, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50.

The following petition was presented, which speaks for itself:

"State of South Carolina, County of Barnwell.

To the Honorable Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina:

*Whereas*, R. L. Mims was convicted, in his absence, during the March term of Court, 1913, for Barnwell county, for disposing of property under lien; and,

*Whereas*, The said R. L. Mims appeared on the following day, and by his attorneys, moved the Court to grant him a new trial on the ground that his case would not be reached until the following day; and,

*Whereas*, The Honorable Thomas H. Spain, Judge presiding, refused said motion for new trial, and thereupon sentenced the said R. L. Mims to pay a fine of \$50;

Now, therefore, we, the undersigned, do hereby petition your Excellency to grant the said R. L. Mims a full and complete pardon:

(Signed) J. D. MILES,

G. J. DIAMOND,

W. V. RICHARDSON,

G. M. MAIN,

JOHN K. SULLIVAN, Judge of Probate;



J. EMILE HARLEY,  
 EDGAR A. BROOM,  
 H. F. BUIST,  
 W. H. DUNCAN, C. C. P.;  
 R. W. RILEY, A. B. C.;  
 C. S. AHL,  
 H. L. DeWITT,  
 R. M. WISE,  
 THOS. STILL,  
 W. S. STILL,  
 J. W. HAIR, Magistrate;  
 H. D. STILL, JR.,  
 C. A. BEST,  
 J. B. NORRIS, Sheriff;  
 W. K. GOWEN,  
 G. C. STILL,  
 SAM J. BAILEY,  
 J. H. STILL,  
 O. R. DYCHER,  
 D. P. JOHNSON,  
 H. D. STILL,  
 H. F. DeWITT,  
 M. DUNCAN,  
 C. G. LANGLEY, Columbia, S. C.;  
 P. E. GIBSON,  
 G. A. STILL,  
 L. B. GIBSON,  
 W. H. DeWITT,  
 D. A. FANNING.

Upon this petition, the defendant was granted a pardon, March 29, 1913.

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MOORE, JESSE (colored) : Convicted before Magistrate L. H. Williams, at Ulmers, S. C., December 24, 1911, of petit larceny, and sentenced to thirty days imprisonment upon the public works of Barnwell county.

The following communication was received from Solicitor R. L. Gunter:

"Aiken, S. C., September 12, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: I write concerning a certain negro in Barnwell county. Jesse Moore was convicted in that county before Magistrate L. H. Williams on 24th day of December, 1911, of petit larceny and served thirty days on the chain gang. He is a very important witness for me in a murder case in Barnwell county which will come up for trial this fall. I wish you to restore his citizenship so that he will be a competent witness. The party to be tried is a negro and Jesse Moore was an eyewitness to the killing. I enclose herewith a letter from the Magistrate.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) R. L. GUNTER."

In accordance with the above request from Solicitor Gunter, Jesse Moore was granted a pardon, in order that his citizenship may be restored, he having served the sentence imposed, and is now a material witness for the State in a murder case. Pardon dated September 13, 1913.

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NEELEY, HARRISON (colored): Convicted before Recorder James S. Verner, of the city of Columbia, S. C., on March 11th, of exceeding speed limit of said city, in an automobile, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$15.75 or to serve thirty days upon the public works.

As I stated at the time to a reporter of the *Dail Record*, "I would not violate one of the ordinances of the city of Columbia, nor would I allow my negro chauffeur so to do. If he is guilty of an infraction of the ordinances he should be punished. But, if the Columbia police authorities do not discontinue persecuting my negro chauffeur because they are politically unfriendly to me, I will take over the police force and institute a system of metropolitan police and declare the city under marshal law."

Such being my position, a pardon was granted to the said Neeley on March 11, 1913.

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NEELEY, HARRISON (colored): Convicted before Recorder James S. Verner, of the city of Columbia, S. C., on March 8, 1913, of exceeding speed limit of said city, in an automobile, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$3.75.

I was an occupant of the car at the time of the alleged violation of the speed limit; the car was not exceeding the speed limit,—the case simply being one of spite against me, because, as I stated in an interview to the newspaper, "Clint Cathcart is angry because his father was not reappointed as clerk to the Richland County Board of Control, and is trying to take it out on me." Therefore, knowing personally that my chauffeur did not violate said ordinance, I granted him a full and free pardon on March 8, 1913.

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PARKS, FRANK (colored): Convicted before Magistrate W. T. Crews, at Laurens, Laurens county, South Carolina, during October, 1912, of petit larceny, and sentenced to thirty days upon the public works of Laurens county.

The following communication was received from Hon. R. A. Cooper, Solicitor:

"Laurens, South Carolina, March 8, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Sir: On or about the 1st of October, 1912, one Frank Parks, colored, was tried by Magistrate W. T. Crews, of this place, and convicted on a charge of petit larceny and sentenced to serve thirty days on the chain gang, which time has been served. Frank Parks is a material witness in a case against several other negroes for stealing cotton from the field, and I ask that you grant him a pardon to restore citizenship so that I may use him as a witness. Court convenes here on next Monday, and I will appreciate it very much if you will send this pardon to me so that I may use the witness on next Tuesday.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) R. A. COOPER.

Solicitor."

Upon the above request, a pardon was granted to Parks on the 10th day of March, 1913, in order that his citizenship might be restored, he having served the sentence above mentioned.

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PARRIS, J. R., or ROWLAND PARRIS (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months upon the public works of said county.



Letter was received from Col. B. G. Landrum, a gentleman of whom I have the very highest respect, is quoted below, and speaks for itself:

"Spartanburg, S. C., October 12, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: You will receive in a few days a petition for the pardon of J. R. Parris, convicted for assault and battery, and sentenced to a fine of \$100 or three months. I wouldn't ask you to grant this pardon if I didn't think it just. Parris was defending his sister, who married this man Shirley, who brought his wife to Spartanburg, got drunk and put her out on the street. Parris found her, took her home and gave Shirley a good beating, which I think was right.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) B. G. LANDRUM."

Petition was also presented as follows:

"State of South Carolina, Spartanburg County.

The State *v.* J. R. Parris, Defendant. Assault and battery.

We, the undersigned, do hereby petition his Excellency, Hon. Cole. L. Blease, to grant a full pardon in the above stated case. We make this request for the reason that the undisputed facts are that the defendant whipped his brother-in-law for his abuse to a sister of the defendant, which sister of defendant is the wife of the said brother-in-law of the defendant. We most earnestly beg that a pardon be granted in the above stated case as we believe the defendant did just what he should have, and just what any other man would have done under the same circumstances."

Which petition is signed by a very large number of citizens of Spartanburg, including W. M. Floyd, Coroner Turner, J. E. Vernon, T. R. Trimmier, Register Mesne Conveyance; D. M. Miles, County Supervisor; W. G. O'Shields, Auditor; N. L. Bennett, Clerk of Court; W. L. Epps.

I think this defendant did exactly right. When a man has a sister who is married to another man, of course, she is the other man's wife, and a brother has no right to interfere between them, nor to take part in their difficulties, until he sees with his own eyes; but, I think it would be a powerful sorry man who would stand by and see any man abuse his mother or sister, whether it be his father or his

brother-in-law, and I think this is a justifiable excuse for any man to commit the offense for which this defendant was convicted, and I congratulate him upon being man enough to protect his sister from a drunken husband,—in fact, I think there should be an appropriation made by which the Governor could award him a gold medal of honor for his action. For these reasons, I take great pleasure in granting to this man a full and free padon.

Pardon dated October 20, 1913.

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PERRY, C. E., PERRY, E. L., MILLER, W. J. (white) : Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Jasper county, of assault and battery, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or serve thirty days, respectively, upon the public works of said county.

One of the defendants, Mr. C. E. Perry, is the father of Jasper county, and possibly her wealthiest and leading citizen. Mr. E. L. Perry is his son. The other gentleman, Mr. Miller, is also a prominent citizen of that county. The crime for which they were convicted was that some negroes had been having some very dirty and slanderous talk in reference to parties at Ridgeland, the county seat, among them being Mr. Perry and his family, and a party of white gentlemen took these two negroes to the woods and gave them what they deserved—a genuine first-class whipping, and turned them loose. Out of the crowd, the negroes recognized and indicted these three gentlemen. When the case was called for trial, neither of them took the stand to deny the allegations against them; therefore, the jury returned a verdict of simple assault and battery, with recommendation to mercy, and the Judge sentenced them to pay a small fine. The following petition has been received, signed by the foreman and all the other jurors :

“State of South Carolina, County of Jasper.

In General Sessions.

The State v. C. E. Perry, W. J. Miller and E. L. Perry, Defendants.  
To Governor Cole, L. Blease :

We, the jurors in the above entitled case, respectfully ask your Excellency to grant a full pardon to the above defendants, whom we found guilty of simple assault and battery, with recommendation to mercy, the prosecutors being two negro men and the defendants being reputable white men, charged with assault and battery with

intent to kill by whipping said prosecutors. The sentence of the Court was \$100 or thirty days on the chain gang.

(Signed) W. W. WOODS, Foreman;

I. L. LONG,

J. F. RIVERS,

C. E. LOWTHEE,

E. L. DEAN,

P. M. GIBSON,

T. L. WATS,

B. RILEY,

J. R. BARKER,

J. H. NETTLES,

J. S. BAKER."

Upon this statement of fact, believing that these white gentlemen did exactly right, and in view of the petition of the jurors, the defendants are hereby granted a free and full pardon, and it is with much pleasure I grant it. Pardons dated September 22, 1913.

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PHILLIPS, C. H. (white): Convicted at the September, 1905, term of Court for Berkeley county, of larceny of live stock, and sentenced to two years imprisonment.

Petition was presented by Senator E. J. Dennis, accompanied by the following communication from him:

"Monck's Corner, S. C., May 21, 1913.

Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: I am sending you herewith petition asking for the pardon of C. H. Phillips, white, who was convicted of larceny of live stock some years ago, and served his sentence on the chain gang of the county. He is quite a young man, with a wife and several young children, and, I believe that the young fellow is now living the life of a good citizen, 'having fully repented of his sin,' and I am particularly anxious to see him pardoned, that his citizenship might be restored. You will observe by reference to the petition that the prosecutor and practically everybody else in his neighborhood, together with the county officials, etc., signed the petition, and I sincerely trust that you can see your way clear to pardon him.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. J. DENNIS,  
Senator, Berkeley County."



The petition presented is signed by the Clerk of Court, Auditor, Treasurer, the prosecutor in the case, and other citizens of Berkeley county.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a pardon, in order that his citizenship may be restored,—he having served the sentence imposed in this case, on May 27, 1913.

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SHEALY, W. A. (white): Convicted before Magistrate J. T. Easterling, Columbia, Richland county, S. C., on March 11, 1913, of assault and battery, and sentenced to ten days upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$15.

The following petition was presented:

"To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina:

We, the undersigned teachers of the Olympia public school, commend the action of W. A. Shealy in enforcing discipline, and we deplore the unfortunate decision of Magistrate Easterling on the 11th day of March, 1913. If said decision is allowed to stand we fear we will be subjected to untold annoyances and our efforts will be greatly handicapped. We, therefore, believe that the stigma should be removed and pray your Excellency:

(Signed) MISS LOUISE NORRIS,  
Teacher of the 6th and 7th Grades;  
MISS ARLAND SPIGNER,  
Teacher of the 3d Grade;  
MISS GRETA CUNNINGHAM,  
Teacher of the 4th and 5th Grades;  
MRS. E. B. WALLACE,  
Teacher of 1st Grade;  
MISS JULIE LUCAS HENDERSON,  
Teacher Adv. 1st Grade;  
MISS ANNIE IRENE SMITH,  
Teacher Grade II."

This was a case of a young boy creating a disturbance upon the school ground at Olympia school; and, upon his being warned, failed to leave the grounds or quit his disturbances; thereupon, the principal, Mr. Shealy, proceeded to chastise him,—resulting in his being arrested for assault and battery.

Upon the petition of the teachers of the school, who are acquainted with the circumstances, conditions, etc., surrounding the school and

this incident, a pardon was granted to Mr. Shealy on March 24, 1913.

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SMITH, S. E. (white): Convicted at the February, 1900, term of Court for Williamsburg county, of bigamy, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works.

Following recommendation was made by the Board of Pardons:

"6. Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* S. E. Smith, Williamsburg county; bigamy—6 months—February 19, 1910.

This sentence has not been served and comes before us to restore citizenship. It has the endorsement of the county officials and Judge Wilson, who was the Solicitor at that time. We recommend a pardon for the purpose as stated.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Board of Pardons."

Pardon was granted, in order that the citizenship of the defendant might be restored, on July 8, 1913.

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SPOUSE, D. L. (white): Convicted before Mayor T. B. Butler, at Gaffney, S. C., August 12, 1913, of violating the Dispensary Law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Cherokee county.

Petition was presented by Mr. C. T. Bridges, of Gaffney, and signed by sixty-three of the good citizens of that town, in which they state: "We, the citizens of Cherokee county, respectfully petition the Honorable Cole. L. Blease, Governor, to grant to the said D. L. Sprouse a full and free pardon. The said D. L. Sprouse was later given a preliminary before the U. S. Commissioner and discharged."

Upon the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant was given a hearing before the U. S. Commissioner, and discharged by him, a pardon was granted to the said D. L. Sprouse on September 17, 1913.

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STEVENSON, FRANK (colored): Convicted before Magistrate H. F. Buechel, at Columbia, Richland county, S. C., February 2, 1912,

of petit larceny, and sentenced to thirty days upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$15 dollars.

The following communication was received from Magistrate Buechel:

"To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease, State House, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: Frank Stevenson, negro, aged about 16 years, was convicted of petit larceny before me and was sentenced about two years ago, to wit: February 5, 1912.

He is now needed as a material witness in several cases that are to be tried before me against John Daniels and Richard Robertson, charged with numerous offenses of receiving stolen goods, knowing them to be stolen.

I urgently request that you issue a pardon to the aforesaid negro boy, Frank Stevenson, so as to permit him to testify before my court this afternoon.

Respectfully,

(Signed) H. F. BUECHEL, Magistrate.

May 14, 1913."

Upon the above statement of Magistrate Buechel, who also called and explained the cases personally, the defendant was granted a pardon, in order that his citizenship may be restored so he can be used as a witness in other criminal cases, he having paid the fine imposed in this case. Pardon dated May 16, 1913.

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STONE, FRANK (white): Convicted at the fall, 1912, term of Court for Laurens county, of obtaining goods under false pretenses and sentenced to pay a fine of \$300 or imprisonment upon the public works of said county for a period of thirty days.

It seems that this party and the prosecutor traded horses, and that this is what brought about the indictment. From the evidence presented in the case, it shows that the horse was supposed to have been blind in one eye and partially blind in the other. This was a defect which could have been very easily detected by both parties. There is no excuse for a man saying that a blind horse has been put off upon him, unless he was either blind or drunk at the time, and there is no evidence to show that the prosecutor was either. Therefore, he should have been too much of a man to complain, for the only purpose people have for trading horses is to improve. If A trades with B, A expects to get the best of the bargain, or A would not trade. When B trades with A, he believes he got the best of the bargain or



he would not have traded. Therefore, when either one of them gets stung, there should be no complaint. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court, and the following is the dissenting opinion of Associate Justice Watts:

"The State of South Carolina—In the Supreme Court.

Eighth Circuit—Laurens County.

April Term, 1913.

The State, Respondent, *v.* Frank Stone, Defendant-Appellant.

No. 3. Dissenting opinion by R. C. Watts, A. J. I dissent from the opinion of the Chief Justice, herein, and think the motion to quash the indictment should have been granted, as it did not state any criminal offense. The allegation that the defendant represented that the bay horse was sound could not be any more than in the opinion of the party making the statement he was. If he made a false statement knowingly that he was, might be sufficient to render him liable for damages in a civil action. Parties trading horses are allowed latitude in expressing the opinion of their horses, and trade generally with intent each to get the better of the others, and under the evidence in the case the trial Judge should have directed a verdict of acquittal, as the evidence of prosecutor, himself, showed that the defect in the horse, complained of, was patent, not latent, and by the exercise of the slightest care, by examining and using his eyes, he could have ascertained that the horse's eyes were defective, and under the evidence and the case of *State v. Delgon*, 1 Bay, 353, quoted by the Chief Justice, the motion of defendant to direct a verdict should have been granted. That State has succeeded in convicting the defendant on testimony, which, in my opinion, it is doubtful if the prosecutor would win in a civil suit for damages against defendant where he could recover if he make out his case, by a preponderance of the evidence only. For these reasons I dissent."

I heartily concur in Judge Watts' opinion, and wish to add that up to the time I was twenty-two years old, I was continuously trading horses, and I always traded with my eyes and ears open, and whenever a man got the best of me, if one ever did, I took my medicine and did not make a howl about getting stung.

In addition to the opinion of Judge Watts, petition was presented, in which it is stated that the signers thereto know the defendant, Frank Stone, and "we do not believe he was guilty. We, therefore, humbly petition your Excellency to grant unto the said Frank Stone a full and free pardon." This petition is signed by the Sheriff,

Probate Judge, County Auditor, Deputy Clerk of Court, H. S. Blackwell, Esq., member of the House of Representatives; former Clerk of Court, John F. Bolt; Dr. Ralfe E. Hughes, Hon. John M. Cannon, James T. Crews, Magistrate Crews, and many of the other best and most substantial citizens of Laurens county.

Upon this showing the defendant is granted a full and free pardon. Pardon dated September 25, 1913.

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THRAILKILL, M. W. (white): Convicted at the August, 1904, term of Court for Saluda county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

A parole was granted to this defendant, during good behavior, on November 29, 1911,—the reasons therefor being set out in Statement of Pardons, Paroles and Commutations submitted to the General Assembly at its 1912 session.

The defendant having shown by his conduct since said parole was granted, that he has made a good, law-abiding citizen, worthy of a pardon, a pardon was granted to him on February 20, 1913, in order that he might enjoy all the privileges of citizenship.

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WATTS, J. CÆSAR (white): Convicted at the October, 1911, term of Court for Lancaster county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petitions in this case were presented by Hon. Claude N. Sapp, and Hon. J. Cope Massey, of Lancaster, S. C.

One of the petitions presented in the case is signed by all twelve of the jurors who tried it, in which they state:

"Since the trial of the case, we find that the circumstances surrounding the killing were different from what the evidence showed them to be at the trial of the case. Seeing the matter as we now do, we feel that Watts is being punished for a crime that he is not guilty of, and therefore humbly ask that he be granted a pardon."

This is signed by the twelve men who convicted him at the General Sessions Court for Lancaster county in 1911. I feel that this would be sufficient of itself to cause this man's release—the twelve men who sat there and heard all of the testimony and heard the arguments of counsel and the charge of the Judge now say, "Watts is being punished for a crime he is not guilty of." They are the twelve men who convicted him; they now come and say that they made a

mistake and ask that he be turned out. What more could be wanted?

But, in addition to that, there was presented petitions from the county of Lancaster, signed by Representatives Sapp and Massey, Sergeant-at-Arms Wilson of the House of Representatives, and one thousand and thirty-one of the other good citizens of Lancaster county, including rural mail carriers, rural policemen, ministers of the gospel, cotton mill operatives, farmers, merchants, lawyers, doctors, being a large part of the male citizenship of that county.

Upon this showing, the defendant has been granted a full and free pardon. Pardon dated December 31, 1913.

WILLIS, BUD (white) : Convicted at the July, 1913, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of violation of the Dispensary Law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$150 or to serve six months upon the public works of Spartanburg county.

The petition presented states that this young man was convicted in the Circuit Court upon the testimony of two hired detectives, who were to receive ten dollars for each conviction. The word "detective," however, is a misnomer—it should have read "two hirelings." He was sentenced to pay a fine of \$150 after he had already been tried for the same offense in the Spartanburg City Court and paid a fine of \$100 to the city. The young man was working in a club-room, in the city of Spartanburg, at the time.

The petition, asking that this young man be given relief, is signed by Hon. John F. Floyd, Clerk of Court Bennett, Register Mesne Conveyance Trimmier, Supervisor Miles, Captain Sam J. Nicholls, Col. B. G. Landrum, Magistrate Robert J. Gantt, and a large number of the other representative citizens of the city of Spartanburg.

My experience with detectives, or so-called detectives of this character, who are to receive so much for each conviction, has been that they will swear any kind of a lie in order to get the ten dollars. I have seen it done in my home town of Newberry, when the most cowardly and contemptible schemes were made up by them. These perjurers would charge honest and innocent men with violations of the Dispensary Law, in order to pick up a little fee. I have no sympathy for such a breed of cattle, calling themselves human beings; they are a disgrace to the name detective, and I take great pleasure in setting aside the conviction and giving to this young man a free and unlimited pardon. Pardon issued August 15, 1913.



## PAROLES GRANTED.

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ABBOTT, JOSEPH (white): Convicted at the January, 1911, term of Court, for Greenville county, of forgery, and sentenced to three years imprisonment.

The Board of Pardons, after a careful consideration of the petitions, etc., submitted in this case, made the following recommendation:

"21. Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Joseph Abbott, Greenville county, convicted of forgery; sentenced three years, January, 1911.

The prisoner's physical condition is becoming serious, and his good behavior is certified to by the Penitentiary officials. A very strong appeal from the Rev. C. M. Gray, of Charleston, and a pathetic appeal of his wife, all move us to a degree of sympathy that we are willing to recommend a parole, during good behavior, as urged by the minister. On account of his condition, he had to be moved from the chain gang to the Penitentiary, and we feel further incarceration would not be in the interest of justice or humanity.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon the above recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 6, 1913.

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ALLEN, BUD (colored): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Aiken county, of rape, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to six years imprisonment upon the public works of Aiken county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Mr. O. L. Weeks, of White Pond, S. C. It is signed by the Chief of Police of Windsor, the Mayor of Windsor, Magistrate at Windsor, and it seems to me every citizen of the town and in that community.

Solicitor Gunter made the following recommendation in this case:

"Aiken, S. C., November 22, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: The petition of Bud Allen for pardon has been received and noted. This negro boy was convicted of assault with intent to ravish on a negro girl about eleven years old. No harm was done to the girl, and I believe that the majesty of the law has been upheld. I would recommend that the said Bud Allen be paroled, during good behavior.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) R. L. GUNTER, Solicitor."

No harm having been done to the girl, I am satisfied some good must have been; therefore, upon the strong petition presented, and the recommendation of Solicitor Gunter, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

ALVERSON, JERRY (colored): Convicted at the July, 1906, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by the defendant, in which it is stated, "And whereas, the undersigned, feel that the defendant has been sufficiently punished, now, therefore, we do hereby petition your Excellency to exercise executive clemency and pardon the said Jerry Alverson." This petition is signed by County Supervisor Miles, Captain Sam J. Nicholls, Hon. George W. Nicholls, Clerk of Board of County Commissioners Jennings, Magistrate Mitchell, and other good reputable citizens of the county of Spartanburg.

Upon the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant has been in prison for more than seven years for the killing of another negro, a parole was granted him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

ANDERSON, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the July, 1907, term of Court for Greenwood county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to twelve years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Under date of May 1, 1913, the Board of Pardons made the following recommendation:

"80.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of John Anderson, Greenwood county, convicted of manslaughter, sentenced twelve years, July, 1907. Judge Watts recommends a pardon for this prisoner. Solicitor Cooper recommends a parole after serving six years. Mr. W. L. Cooper presented an additional petition, which is signed by Magistrate Matterson, ex-Senator Wharton, W. C. Cobb, the Superintendent of the mill, Rev. J. M. Dobson, Clerk of Court Bolt, and Dr. J. O. Martin. We respectfully refer to our endorsement of January 3, 1913, and recommend the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
Pardon Board."

Upon the above recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

ARROWWOOD, F. (white): Convicted at the May, 1912, term of Court for Union county, of larceny, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works.

Petition was presented by Col. James G. Long, Jr., of Union, S. C.

The petition is signed by the foreman and ten other members of the jury who tried the case; by the Master, County Commissioners, Clerk Board of County Commissioners, County Auditor, County Superintendent of Education, ex-Sheriff James G. Long, Magistrate W. G. Puckett, Col. James G. Long, Jr., and a large number of the other good citizens of Union county.

The defendant having served more than half of the sentence imposed, and in view of the very strong petition presented, a parole was granted to him, during good behavior, June 12, 1913.

BAIN, R. R. (white): Convicted before Magistrate W. M. Stokes, at Hartsville, S. C., Darlington county, on July 16, 1913, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Darlington county.

The petition presented contains a clause which I must say I do not exactly understand, said clause reading: "We were present at the trial above stated, heard the evidence, and do not believe either that there was evidence sufficient for conviction, or that the said



R. R. Bain is guilty of the offense charged." This petition is signed by Jno. McDonald, D. L. English, W. C. Davis, J. C. McLeod, J. E. Moon, L. Mohn, who sign as jurors serving in the Magistrate's Court. How a man could sit on a case and convict a man, and then sign a petition like this, is rather strange.

Looking further, we find three names, who sign as State's witnesses. I also have a letter from the Magistrate, in which he neither recommends clemency, nor opposes it.

In addition to the above, another petition was presented signed by a large number of the citizens of Hartsville, including member of the Council, Policemen, Cashier of Bank, doctors and many others. Also, personal letters from some citizens of the town of Hartsville.

Upon this extraordinary and unusual showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violation of the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the sentence above mentioned.

Parole dated August 13, 1913.

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BARKER, FLOYD (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Anderson county, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months upon the public works of Anderson county.

Petition was presented by Sheriff Joe M. H. Ashley, of Anderson county, accompanied by a letter, in which he states:

"Floyd Barker was convicted at the May term of Court and was sentenced to ninety days on the public roads of this county for the violation of the dispensary law. He is a young married man, and his wife is in very bad health, and in fact is not expected to live very long. His mother and father are both poor but honest people, and they with his wife need his assistance every day. He has been on the road and in jail for the last three months and I think that he has suffered sufficient for the crime and hope you will give him another chance in life, and let him prove to the world that he still has enough manhood left in him to make a good, desirable citizen.

(Signed) JOE M. H. ASHLEY,

Sheriff, A. C."

The petition is signed by one hundred and eighty-three of the good, substantial citizens of Anderson county, in which they state:

"We understand that he has a wife and one small child who are dependent upon him, and that they are now in destitute circumstances."

Upon the letter from Sheriff Ashley, the unusually strong petition presented, and the fact that he has served in jail and on the public works about three months, and the serious condition of the health of his wife, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior; and, upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law of this State, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated June 26, 1913.

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BARNES, BERRY (white): Convicted at the January, 1912, term of Court for Hampton county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The following recommendation was made by the Board of Pardons:

"71. Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Berry Barnes, Hampton county, convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill, sentenced to eighteen months, November, 1912.

Mr. M. L. Barnes, his father, was heard in his behalf. It seems that the prisoner served several months in jail before the trial, although bond approved by the Clerk of Court of his home county was offered for his release, and also that he has now served fourteen months of the sentence. One of the members of this Board lives in the county where the prisoner was tried (which was not the prisoner's home county) and knowing the case and some of the circumstances surrounding it, we follow his advice in recommending a parole during good behavior. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Pardon Board."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole during good behavior, May 3, 1913.

BARNWELL, ROBERT (colored): Convicted at the June, 1907, term of Court for Charleston county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Charleston county.

The petition presented states that this defendant has made a good prisoner; has served more than five years of a seven-year sentence, and is signed by Mr. J. B. Davis, Gen. Supt. of County Commissioners of Charleston County; Sheriff J. Elmore Martin, and others.

In view of the fact that the defendant has served over five years of his sentence, and has made a good prisoner, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 10, 1913.

BARTON, POSEY (white): Convicted at the January, 1909, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

A petition was presented in behalf of this defendant on February 20, 1911. At that time I did not feel that he had been sufficiently punished for his offense.

An additional petition is presented this day, signed by seven of the jurors who tried the case, including the foreman; also by Deputy Sheriff; by Sheriff Poole, and by an unusually large number of ladies of the community where the offense was committed; by County Auditor M. L. Gullick; several ministers; Dr. L. C. Branyon, and is accompanied by a certificate of the physician, in which he states that longer confinement to prison would prove fatal to the defendant. Solicitor Bonham, in writing of this case says: "If the cause of humanity demands that he should be paroled on account of his health, that is a matter which you must decide, as it appeals to you."

The Judge who tried the case, Hon. S. W. G. Shipp, states: "Of course, if humanity demands the softening of the penalty or even the parole or pardon of defendant, that is for his Excellency, the Governor. I know nothing of the physical condition of the applicant."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled upon the condition that if he ever again takes another drink of liquor, or is ever again convicted of any criminal offense in the General Sessions Court of this State, he shall be recommitted to the State Penitentiary to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated March 25, 1913.



BELLAMY, FRANK (colored): Convicted at the September, 1909, term of Court for Horry county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Horry county.

The petition presented in this case is signed by the Clerk of Court, County Supervisor, both of the County Commissioners, County Auditor, Treasurer, Sheriff, Probate Judge, foreman and other members of the jury, father of the prosecutrix, and others, accompanied by the testimony in the case—with the following recommendation from the Judge and Solicitor, and recommendation of the Board of Pardons:

"I remember this case very well and I asked the Judge to have the jury empanelled to recommend him to mercy, but, of course, five years was the minimum sentence. I think that he has now served sufficiently long and I recommend that he be paroled.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) WALTER H. WELLS."

"To His Excellency, Gov. Cole. L. Blease:

I join in the recommendation of the Solicitor.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) R. C. WATTS,

October 14, 1912.

Presiding Judge."

"26.

Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Frank Bellamy, Horry county, convicted of burglary and larceny, sentenced five years, September 29, 1909.

This petition is endorsed by the county officials and recommended by Judge Watts and Solicitor Wells, who tried the case. We therefore recommend parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 6, 1913.

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BENNETT, ELISHA (colored): Convicted at the March, 1909, term of Court for Lee county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

A petition was presented, signed by many of the citizens of the counties of Lee and Sumter, in which they ask that this negro be granted a pardon or parole.

Mr. J. J. Shaw, foreman of the petit jury, who tried the case, submitted the following communication in behalf of the negro:

"Bishopville, S. C., May 20, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I understand an effort is being made to get you to pardon or parole one Elisha Bennett, who is now in the State Penitentiary for life for murder.

In this connection, I wish to say, in addition to what others have already said, or might hereafter say in behalf of this negro, that I was the foreman of the jury that found this negro guilty, that while he killed his own child in a scuffle with another negro over a gun, which he ought not to have done, that I think he has already received sufficient punishment, and as the foreman of the trial jury I most respectfully ask at your hands for this poor, unfortunate negro a pardon or parole. I wish to say further that at about the time this unfortunate occurrence happened that in that immediate neighborhood two or more accidental killings happened through just such conduct, etc., and at the time of the trial these things were all fresh in the minds of the jury, and too, I am informed and believe, that this same thing caused the people of the community to just let the matter go by preferring to take no part in the trial of the case in behalf of the negro.

As above stated, I am convinced that Bennett has been well punished for this act, and I solicit a pardon or parole for him. I wish also to refer you to the following named gentlemen who were on this jury with me that you might ask a report from them if you so desire, viz.: R. E. Law, Elliott, S. C.; M. D. Davis, Bishopville, S. C., R. F. D.; W. A. Gardner, Bishopville, Route 4; E. G. DesChamps, Wisacky, S. C.; I. S. Vaughn, Bishopville, Route 5; S. B. Padgett, Bishopville, Route 5; H. L. Skinner, Bishopville, S. C.; D. S. Folsom, Bishopville, Route 4; V. M. Pate, Lucknow, S. C.; J. Hoyt Stuckey, Bishopville, and J. J. Truesdale. Yours truly,

(Signed) J. J. SHAW,  
Foreman of Petit Jury."

The following communication was received from Hon. Thos. G. McLeod, of Bishopville, S. C.:

"Bishopville, S. C., May 20, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: Mr. J. L. Gillis informs me that he will present a petition for pardon of one Elisha Bennett, who is now under life sentence in the penitentiary, having been convicted of murder, with recommendation to mercy. At the request of Mr. Gillis, I write to say that in my opinion this darkey has suffered sufficiently and it is a case worthy of executive clemency. I was present in the courthouse for the greater part of this trial, and while I do not recall all of the particulars, yet I do remember distinctly being surprised that the verdict was not at least manslaughter. My impression at that time was that if a proper defense had been made the verdict would not have been more than manslaughter and possibly acquittal.

Under all these circumstances I do not hesitate to say that I think the punishment so far meted out has been sufficient, and that pardon would be entirely justifiable and right under the circumstances.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) THOS. G. McLEOD."

The following certificate was received from Col. D. J. Griffith, Superintendent of the State Penitentiary:

"Columbia, S. C., October 25, 1913.

Gov. C. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: Elisha Bennett was received here to serve life sentence, March, 1909. He is now in the hospital for treatment, and has been for about two months. He is suffering with catarrh of the bowels and dysentery. This boy has been faithful to his duty, worked well and has given no trouble here, and from what I am informed is not likely to ever be a strong, healthy man again.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt."

Upon the petition submitted, the communications above quoted, and the condition of this prisoner's health, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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BETHEA, ED (colored): Convicted before Magistrate J. D. Haselden, at Dillon, S. C., on August 19, 1913, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works.



Petition was presented, asking for the pardon or parole of this negro, signed by County Treasurer W. McInnis, Judge of Probate Joe Cabell Davis, Sheriff S. V. Lane, Magistrate L. B. Haselden, ex-Magistrate J. D. Haselden, and others.

Magistrate J. D. Haselden, who imposed the sentence, in a personal communication, states that this negro was a licensed drayman of the town of Dillon; that he was sent to the depot for this package of whiskey; was arrested; pleaded guilty to transporting whiskey, and was fined \$100 or thirty days upon the public works; that they were having some difficulty in breaking up blind tigers, and in order to get proof on the blind tigers themselves, this negro was arrested for transporting whiskey; that he fined him \$100 and later remitted the fine to payment of \$25; that the grand jury did not understand the situation and thought he should collect the balance of the fine; that they did not understand that this defendant was NOT guilty of any real crime.

Upon the petition presented and statement by Magistrate Haselden as to the true circumstances surrounding the case, and in view of the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the case of the City of Anderson against Milton Fant, in which it was held that the defendant who purchased whiskey from a blind tiger could not be properly convicted for transporting whiskey, and reversed the judgment of the Recorder of the City of Anderson, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, October 23, 1913.

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BLAIR, WILLIE (colored): Convicted at the September, 1910, term of Court for Richland county, of larceny of a bicycle, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works, or in the State Penitentiary.

A petition was presented, signed by several people, and accompanied by the following letter from Hon. W. Hampton Cobb, Solicitor:

"Columbia, S. C., April 12, 1913.

His Excellency, Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: This boy, Willie Blair, plead guilty to stealing a bicycle. The property was turned over to the authorities by the boy's mother, who has impressed me as being a good, responsible colored woman.

Blair is only a boy in his teens, and his people have assured me that if he is given a chance that he will go to work and keep out of

trouble in the future. I, therefore, recommend a parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,  
(Signed) W. HAMPTON COBB,  
Solicitor."

Upon this showing the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, April 12, 1913.

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BLAKELY, BEN (colored): Convicted at the October, 1910, term of Court for Laurens county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works.

The petition was presented by W. R. Richey, Esq., of Laurens, and states: "Ben Blakely was at a negro woman's house by the name of Jeana Jones; he got a shotgun for the purpose of going out to kill some rabbits; just as he was leaving the house he turned the gun towards the woman and jokingly said he believed he would shoot her; the hammer slipped and the gun went off, the load lodging in the woman's stomach; the defendant testified that he did not intend to shoot the woman, that they were good friends, and that he did everything in his power to aid towards her comfort after being shot. The dying declaration of the woman was to the effect that Ben did not mean to kill her. The witnesses for the State substantiated the foregoing facts."

The petition is signed by Sheriff Owings, Mr. W. C. Winters, Dr. R. E. Hughes, and others, with the following recommendations from the Judge and Solicitor:

"Chester, S. C., May 13, 1913.

Granting of petition recommended.

(Signed) J. H. MARION,  
Special Judge."

"I recommend that petition be granted. Respectfully,  
(Signed) R. A. COOPER, Sol.

Laurens, S. C., May 10, 1913."

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 16, 1913.

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BOSTON, TOM (colored): Convicted at the March, 1911, term of Court for Newberry county, of assault and battery, with intent to kill, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Newberry county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Mr. J. R. Irwin, of Chappells, S. C., accompanied by the following letter:

"Chappells, S. C., November 14, 1913.

Gov. Cole. L. Blease.

Dear Governor: I am enclosing to you a petition which will, in part, explain itself, but in order to make it a little more explicit, I will give you the facts as near as I can relate them.

The parties were Lidie Spearman, *alias* Jackson, who was the concubine of Thomas Boston, and she was cooking for W. R. Smith, Sr. There arose some trouble between Tom Boston and Lidie, and on the night the assault was made there was a little show at Chappells, S. C., and Tom Boston and Lidie Spearman attended the show, and Mr. W. R. Smith's little girl and some other children were also at the show. Lidie and Tom renewed their quarrel at the show and when the show closed Tom went ahead, and as Lidie and these white children came by him he attacked Lidie and threw a rock which struck her and glanced and slightly grazed Blanche, the little white girl, who is my granddaughter. This happened on the public highway. You will see Mr. Smith, Sr., was the first to sign the petition, saying thereby he is satisfied. Also, the girl's brother and myself. We all feel he has been punished sufficiently. Tom has been an obedient and faithful servant, having lived with me for four years before this happened, and I understand has been a good prisoner and is now a trusty on the chain gang. He had no one to help him in the case, as the girls were our people we could not afford to show him any favor at the time, so let him go to Court without any legal or other assistance.

Most resp.,

(Signed) J. R. IRWIN."

The petition asking for clemency is signed by W. R. Smith, Sr., W. C. Keith, M. P. Allen, W. J. Holloway, W. O. Holloway, J. L. Holloway, J. H. Johnson, W. A. Webb, T. T. Reid, W. R. Reid, Magistrate; W. R. Smith, Jr., A. P. Coleman—in fact, almost all of the citizens of Chappells' Depot, including those who seem to be mostly interested in the matter.

Upon the showing presented in behalf of the defendant, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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BOYD, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the June, 1913, term of Court for Clarendon county, of obtaining goods by false pretense,



and sentenced to eight months imprisonment upon the public works of Clarendon county.

The following certificates were presented by Hon. Louis Appelt, Senator for Clarendon county:

"State of South Carolina, County of Clarendon.

Personally appeared before me W. R. Davis, Supervisor of said county, who, being duly sworn, says:

That at the June, 1913, term of Court, one John Boyd, colored, was sentenced to hard labor on the public works of said county for a period of eight months; that said John Boyd was placed on the chain gang about the 5th day of June, and since that time has not been able to work more than four or five days; that he has been under the care of a physician almost constantly during said period.

That deponent has this day been informed by the County Physicians that the said John Boyd is suffering with pellagra and will be unable to do any work during the remainder of the term for which he was sentenced.

That the county has no means or equipment for properly caring for sick convicts, and it will be necessary to place the said convict either in the county jail or in the State Penitentiary for treatment until the expiration of said sentence unless paroled.

That said John Boyd has a wife and a number of relatives who are able and willing to care for him during his illness, and deponent is firmly of the opinion that it would be for the best interests of the county and State, and of the said John Boyd, that he be paroled under such conditions as the Governor may deem proper, so that he may be cared for by his family.

(Signed) W. P. DAVIS,  
Supervisor, Clarendon County.

Sworn to before me this 17th day of July, 1913.

(Signed) S. OLIVER O'BRIEN, (L. S.)  
Notary Public for S. C."

"Manning, S. C., July 17, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: There is upon the chain gang of this county a negro, John Boyd, who is serving a small sentence, and who has only about six months more to serve, the Supervisor advises that he will write you fully as to same. We find that this negro is suffering with pellagra, and will be unfit for service during the remainder of the

term of sentence, but will merely be an expense to the county. For these reasons, and as an act of humanity, we respectfully recommend that your Excellency parole the said John Boyd on such conditions as you may be advised. Yours respectfully,

(Signed) GEO. L. DICKSON, M. D.,  
W. M. BROCKINTON, M. D.,  
County Physicians."

Upon the certificate of the County Physicians and the Supervisor for Clarendon county, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 18, 1913.

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BRADLEY, THOS., JR. (colored): Convicted at the July, 1912, term of Court for Chester county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Chester county.

Paroled, during good behavior, May 31, 1913.

(See cases of John and Arthur Howze for reasons in this case.)

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BREWINGTON, ERNEST T. (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Richland county, of nonsupport of wife, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county.

Petition was presented by Mr. James H. Hammond, Attorney at Law, Columbia, S. C.

It seems from the facts in the case that this boy was forcibly made to marry this girl, who, most probably was not of as good moral character as she should have been, and that as soon as the ceremony was over and he could get himself free and loose, that he deserted her, and declined to have anything to do with her. I think he was a fool for marrying her, if the facts as stated are true, because under the law of South Carolina, where he could not get a divorce, I would rather risk being shot or risk my chances of leaving the State and going somewhere else, than risk getting loose after getting married. However, this boy was a young cotton mill operative, possibly imposed upon on account of his ignorance, and the petition for his pardon is presented, signed by a large number of the cotton mill operatives, who are familiar with all the circumstances and with the character of all the parties, and they are asking that he be given his freedom. He states, however, in his petition that he believes he

is the father of this particular child. He is, therefore, paroled during his good behavior, and upon the further condition that he make proper provision for the support of and education of the child, unless he hereafter discover it is not his, and in that case he is released from any further obligations whatsoever. Parole dated July 8, 1913.

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BRASWELL, WILLIAM, *alias* WILLIAM BRAZELL (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Richland county, of highway robbery and larceny, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county.

Petition was presented in which it is stated "that the defendant bore the reputation of being honest and industrious and well-behaved." The petitioners certify that "if he committed any crime, which they do not believe, that it was committed while under the influence of liquor." I, myself, have serious doubts of this boy having committed the offense for which he was charged. I believe it was a fixed-up scheme on him, and if not, I believe he was made drunk for the purpose.

This petition is signed by men who are personally acquainted with this young man, and know him and his reputation—the signers being known to me to be men of the highest standing and the best moral character.

Upon the showing made before me, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior. Parole dated December 31, 1913.

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BRIGHT, WADE (white): Convicted at the March, 1911, term of Court for Cherokee county, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$175 or to serve five months upon the public works of said county.

The following communication was received from the Sheriff of Cherokee county:

"Gaffney, S. C., September 19, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: On March —, 1911, one Wade Bright, a white man, was convicted in this county in the Sessions Court for violating the dispensary law, having been tried in his absence, and a sealed sentence left for him. A bench warrant was issued for his arrest. Since his conviction he has been in Georgia, Mississippi and several



other places, and was arrested in Greenville, S. C., September 17, 1913, and brought here on the 18th, at which time the sentence against him was opened and read to him. He was sentenced to fine of \$175 or serve at hard labor for five months. He was taken to the chain gang yesterday afternoon.

The man's father offers \$25 as expense to which the county has been put to be paid the county. In my opinion, judging from the man's looks and from his words, he has consumption, and should not be on the chain gang, where the work and hardships will only result in making his life a matter of only a very short time. In the sake of humanity, I beg you to either parole or pardon him.

Thanking you very much in advance for a favorable action in this case, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) W. W. THOMAS,  
Sheriff of Cherokee County."

Upon the above letter from Sheriff Thomas, the defendant was paroled upon the condition that he pay to the Clerk of Court of Cherokee county the sum of \$25; and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated September 20, 1913.

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BRITTON, W. C. (white): Convicted at the January, 1909, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

It seems that this party was in his own home when the crime, for which he was convicted, was committed, and, from the statement of Judge Shipp, whiskey was the cause of the trouble.

In view of the petition presented, signed by Colonel Griffith, Captain Sondley, Sergeant Mobley, and guards of the penitentiary, and the fact that this man has given them no trouble, and has made a good prisoner, and in view of the further fact that he has served five years imprisonment, and is now of the age of fifty-two, to use his own words, "That if he is given another opportunity he will be a good citizen," he was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not use any intoxicating liquors hereafter as a beverage, and that in case he should, it will be deemed a violation of this parole, and he shall be recommitted

to serve the remainder of the sentence imposed upon him. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

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BROCKINGTON, GEORGE (colored): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Darlington county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented states: "This man was being held, at the time of the shooting, by the party whom he shot, and the prosecutor had a knife and was trying to cut the defendant, and he was forced to shoot to protect his own life. We have known the said Horace Brockington for a number of years and know that he is a peaceable, quiet, hard-working man, and that in our opinion he has suffered sufficiently and more than he should for the crime he has committed."

The petition is signed by J. A. McLeod, J. P. Kirven, H. F. Dufft, ex-Sheriff G. P. Scarborough, C. Alexander, R. J. Scarborough, Hon. Chas. A. Smith, Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina; W. H. Lowman, W. L. Copeland, Magistrate J. W. Boykin, and many of the other good citizens of Darlington county.

In view of the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant has served nearly half of the sentence imposed upon him, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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BROOKS, JOE (colored): Convicted at the Spring, 1909, term of Court for Greenwood county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works of Greenwood county.

Petition was presented in April, 1912. The Board of Pardons, on July 6, 1912, made the following recommendation:

"16. Columbia, S. C., July 6, 1912.  
To His Excellency, Gov. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: We respectfully return to you, with our recommendation thereon, the petition of Joseph Brooks, Greenwood county, charged with grand larceny, sentenced seven years, Spring, 1909.

The Solicitor, Hon. R. A. Cooper, recommends a pardon. The petition has many names of prominent Greenwood citizens. We are disposed to grant any request for clemency endorsed by Solicitor

Cooper, as we have noticed that he is very careful as to his recommendations, and therefore recommend a parole.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Sect.;  
R. MAYS CLEVELAND,  
Board of Pardons."

I did not feel that the negro had been sufficiently punished, and therefore did not act upon the petition at that time.

The petition has now been strengthened by the following endorsement:

"I recommend pardon. Respectfully,  
(Signed) GEO. E. PRINCE,  
April 28, 1913. Presiding Judge."

Solicitor Cooper made the following recommendation:

"I recommend pardon. (Signed) R. A. COOPER,  
April 16, 1912. Solicitor."

The petition itself is signed by the County Auditor, Mayor Baker, of Greenwood, and other prominent citizens.

Upon this showing, a parole was granted to defendant, during good behavior, May 1, 1913.

BROWDER, W. B. (white): Convicted before Magistrate James H. Fowles, Jr., at Columbia, S. C., November 22, 1913, of being disorderly, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Richland county.

This old man was convicted of using profane language to a young lady, who now submits the following communication:

"Columbia, S. C., November 24, 1913.

Mr. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina:

I will take the pleasure to tell you what Mr. Browder had to say to me did not amount to anything at all, as being used to him all my life, I taken it as a joke, and I do wish you would pardon him, sir.

Yours truly,  
(Signed) MARY ANNA JONES."



"Mr. Cole L. Blease:

We have all signed that petition that Mr. Browder has sent already. My father, J. R. Jones, and my mother, and my sister, also.

Yours truly,

(Signed) MARY ANNA JONES."

Along with these communications was presented a petition signed by a large number of the mill operatives of Ward 5, requesting that the old man be paroled.

In view of this letter by the young lady, and the petition presented, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that if he is hereafter convicted of being drunk or disorderly, he shall be required to pay the fine above mentioned or to serve the sentence herein referred to. Parole dated Novembr 25, 1913.

BROOKS, SUMPTER (colored): Convicted at the February, 1910, term of Court for Aiken county, of murder with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Col. D. W. Gaston, Jr., of Aiken, S. C., accompanied by a certificate from Superintendent Griffith and Captain Sondley, of the Penitentiary, in which they state that the petitioner "has been a well-behaved prisoner, a good worker, has never been reported for any kind of misconduct of any kind." This certificate is also signed by the Penitentiary physician and I presume all of the guards, as there are twenty-seven names on it, and among them I recognize some who I know to be guards.

The petition presented is signed by more than a majority of the jurors who tried the case, and is also signed by Col. D. W. Gaston, Sr., Col. D. W. Gaston, Jr., Master L. M. C. Oliveros, Col. D. S. Henderson, Mayor Herbert E. Gyles and other prominent citizens of the town of Aiken—and two other petitions containing one hundred and fifty names of citizens of Aiken county, including three preachers.

This was a case of one negro killing another; and in view of the petition presented, the fact that he has made a good prisoner and has served nearly four years imprisonment, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 31, 1913.

BROWN, ISAAC C. (white): Convicted at the February, 1906, term of Court for Horry county, of violating the dispensary law,

and sentenced to pay a fine of \$200 or to serve nine months upon the public works of said county.

This defendant was convicted during his absence and sealed sentence was left with Clerk of Court. It was recently opened and defendant committed to the county chain gang to serve the sentence imposed.

The petition presented is signed by Clerk of Court W. L. Bryan, County Auditor N. C. Adams, County Treasurer John Holt, Sheriff J. A. Lewis, Probate Judge J. S. Vaught, County Superintendent of Education S. H. Brown, and an unusually large number of the other good, reputable citizens of Horry county.

In view of the very strong petition presented the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated June 4, 1913.

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BROWN, JAMES (colored): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Anderson county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Mr. T. P. Dickson, of Anderson, S. C., and is as follows:

"We, the undersigned citizens and residents of Anderson county, believing that the negro, James Brown, has been sufficiently punished for the offense for which he was convicted, respectfully petition your Excellency to exercise executive clemency in his behalf and grant to him a parole. He has always been a law-abiding negro and we believe that the granting of a parole to him will meet with the hearty approval of all the white people of this community who are familiar with the facts of the case."

This petition is signed by Representatives Oscar D. Gray, H. C. Summers, Col. V. B. Cheshire, Drs. Richardson, Campbell, Mock, Supervisor J. Mack King, Magistrate J. E. Riley, Hon. Kurtz P. Smith, some members of the jury who convicted the defendant, Clerk of County Board of Commissioners J. S. Acker, County Treasurer C. W. McGee, and many of the other good citizens of Anderson county.

Accompanying the petition is a certificate from Deputy Clerk of Court of Anderson county, setting forth the Court record, and also stating that the party killed was a negro.

In view of the strong showing made in behalf of the defendant, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 15, 1913.

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BROWN, ROBERT (colored): Convicted at the June, 1910, term of Court for Charleston county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The following is copy of communication received from Col. D. J. Griffith, Superintendent of the State Penitentiary:

"Columbia, S. C., September 5, 1913.

Governor C. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: Robert Brown was sent here from Drainage Com. in Charleston, S. C., on account of bad health, about two years ago, and worked on Drainage Commission in Charleston county, S. C., about one year and four months. Five years was his sentence, and by allowing him one-twelfth for good behavior, which he is entitled to, he will go out on the 7th day of January, 1915. Robert has behaved well and has been an extraordinary good prisoner.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt.

I thoroughly endorse Colonel Griffith's statement.

(Signed) W. H. SONDELEY,

P. H. LESESNE, Clerk;

F. M. MOBLEY,

Sergt. of the Guard."

The following letter was received from this prisoner:

"Columbia, S. C., September 6, 1913.

His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Sou. Car.

Hon. Sir: As per our conversation upon your visit to the prison morning of 4th inst., you will please find enclosed statements with the endorsements of the officials.

I will outline my case, as briefly as possible, and ask clemency in my behalf, for financially I am not able to procure assistance, and you can appreciate my inability to ask people of influence to assist me, not having been thrown in contact with people of power. My mother is a widow, striving alone to support herself and my little sisters and brothers and cannot help me any. Hence, after reading my case, and in view of the fact I was a mere boy when I com-



mitted crime, and being thrown in contact with people of questionable character, all of which led to my downfall, the three years and four months of imprisonment has taught me a grand lesson, one which I will profit by, and can honestly promise you if given a chance to redeem myself, you will never have cause to regret having given me this chance. I always was a hard-working boy, never loafing, but lent my humble assistance towards the support of my family, my wages always was turned over to them, and they need me very badly now. I entered the house where I had been employed as porter. The landlady's name, Miss Mattie Sherman, and took some articles of silverware; suffice it to say she recovered every article taken.

In conclusion, cannot your Excellency overlook me this time and give me one more chance to convince you of my sincerity to lead an honorable and upright life.

Humbly begging to remain your humble servant,

(Signed) ROBERT BROWN,  
Colored office boy."

"Dear Governor: Robert has been a good boy since here, and I believe all that he has wrote to you. Yours,

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt."

This defendant having served about three years and a half of a five-year sentence, and, taking into consideration his good behavior since his confinement, as testified to by the prison officials, and his physical condition, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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BROWN, ROBERT (colored): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Clarendon county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Clarendon county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by J. H. Lesesne, Esq., of Manning, S. C.

The petition asking for the pardon of this man is signed by Sheriff Gamble, who says: "I heard the testimony in this case and did not think that he ought to have been convicted. (Signed) E. B. Gamble, Sheriff."

County Auditor and County Treasurer sign the petition and make the following endorsement thereon: "Robert Brown is at present detailed from the chain gang, and is now janitor at the courthouse,

and is a polite and obedient servant, and we recommend his pardon. (Signed) A. P. Burgess, County Auditor; L. L. Wells, County Treasurer."

County Superintendent of Education signs and endorses the petition as follows: "I did not hear the testimony, but Brown is an obedient and good servant, and I recommend his pardon or parole. (Signed) E. J. Brown, Co. Supt. Ed."

Attorney at Law Charlton DuRant signs and endorses the petition as follows: "I do not know the facts, but from what I can learn, I think a parole would be proper. (Signed) Charlton DuRant, Atty."

The following letter from Probate Judge Windham was also filed with the petition:

"Manning, S. C., July 7, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: I have been asked to sign a petition for the pardon of one Robert Brown, colored. I have known Robert Brown for a few months, since his conviction, and from what I have seen of him I regard him a good negro, and from the testimony I do not see how he could have been convicted.

I therefore join in his petition and ask that you either grant him a pardon or parole, as in your judgment seems best.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) J. M. WINDHAM,  
Judge of Probate."

State Senator Louis Appelt, in writing of this case, says: "I happened to be in the courthouse during this trial, and when the verdict was rendered I was surprised, and I told his attorney immediately that if he would make the effort I would gladly recommend Brown's pardon, and I hereby do so now. Brown should not have been convicted. Yours, etc., (Signed) Louis Appelt."

The petition is also signed by a good many other prominent citizens of the neighborhood where the offense took place.

One of the jurors, Mr. H. C. Wheeler, writes a private letter in which he says he will sign petition for pardon; and a letter from another juror, Mr. Fulton, in which he says: "I would have done the same thing he did."

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 10, 1913.

BRYANT, V. B., or LESTER BRYANT (white): Convicted at the September, 1911, term of Court for Greenville county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Greenville county, or in the State Penitentiary.

On January 3, 1913, the Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Gov. of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* V. B. Bryant, or Lester Bryant, Greenville county, convicted of manslaughter, sentenced five years, September 15, 1911.

The physical condition of the prisoner, as well as the large petition in this case, together with extenuating circumstances shown therein, we recommend that the sentence be commuted to two years.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

The defendant having served more than two years of the sentence imposed upon him, in view of the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, above quoted, a parole has been granted him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

BUNION, LOUIS, *alias* GEO. BRUNSON (colored): Convicted at the February, 1905, term of Court for Richland county, for car-breaking and larceny (two cases), and sentenced to eight years and seven years—total of fifteen years—imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The records show that he has served eight years of his sentence of fifteen, and that he has made a good prisoner.

The special Judge who tried the case, J. E. McDonald, was then and is now an attorney for the Southern Railway, and I do not think he should have tried this case. While he was not directly interested in it, being attorney for the railroad, he was certainly to a certain extent influenced by his association with the railroad, and he cannot get around that—it is human nature.

I have a letter from this prisoner, and I am sure that whoever may read it, and take into consideration the circumstances of the



case, would act as I am going to do—that is, parole the defendant during good behavior.

Parole, during good behavior, dated April 10, 1913.

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BURKE, M. L.: Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to five months imprisonment upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$300.

Petition was presented, signed by a large number of the citizens of Spartanburg, including some of the county officials—one of whom, Col. T. R. Trimmier, who has received as much endorsement from the county of Spartanburg as anyone living in it, or has ever lived in it.

Upon the showing made to me, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be arrested and required to serve the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated March 3, 1913.

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CARTER, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the October, 1908, term of Court for Marion county, of highway robbery and larceny, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Hon. J. D. Montgomery, of Marion, S. C., accompanied by a letter from the prosecutor, in which it is stated:

"Marion, S. C., October 14, 1913.

His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: In the case of Henry Carter, who was convicted, as you will see by enclosed petition, and who is now serving his sentence in the chain gang, was convicted solely on my testimony, I being the prosecutor. It may be possible that I was mistaken, and probably he is not the right man. I am willing to give him the benefit of the doubt, and for fear that possibly he may be an innocent man, and is suffering punishment for a crime of which he may not be guilty, I respectfully ask you to pardon him. If he is guilty, I am sure he has suffered long enough for the crime he committed, and for the reason set forth above, I urge his pardon, and will ever pray.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) BLAKE GODBOLD."

The petition is signed by several of the jurors who tried the case, and in view of the fact that the prisoner has served over five years of the sentence imposed upon him, and the recommendation of the man who prosecuted the case, a parole was granted him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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CASON, FRANK; CASON, HERBERT; CASON, WYATT (colored): All three defendants were convicted at the same time, June, 1909, term of Court for Fairfield county, of car breaking and grand larceny, and sentenced to five years, each, upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. Samuel T. Clowney, member of the House of Representatives.

The petitioners, in their petition, state that in their opinion, the ends of justice have been met; and, that besides the sentences they have served, that they were confined in the county jail for two months before their trial. The petition is signed by Jno. W. Cathcart, T. L. Johnson, member of the House; W. G. Jordan, Jas. A. Hannahan, J. E. McDonald, Jr., B. G. Tennant, G. W. Ragsdale, Jno. P. Matthews, Jno. H. McMaster, Tom M. McMaster, A. Lee Scruggs, Representative Samuel T. Clowney, Senator T. H. Ketchum, and other prominent citizens of the county of Fairfield.

Upon this showing, the defendants were paroled, during good behavior, February 22, 1913.

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CAUGHMAN, T. BURNEY (white): Convicted at the October, 1913, term of Court for Sumter county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to twelve years imprisonment upon the public works of Sumter county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. B. Frank Kelley, of Bishopville, S. C. It is stated that the defendant is just twenty-one years of age, and has been confined in jail since the 3d day of May, 1913; that he was tried and convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to twelve years imprisonment.

Certificate was presented from Dr. E. M. Carson, of Sumter county, in which he states that the mother of this boy is an old lady, more than sixty years of age, and that she is in very bad health and that this boy is her main support. He makes affidavit to this, saying that it is of his own knowledge.

Petition was presented, in which it is stated that this boy is the main support of his old widowed mother, and that the boy was with-

out fault in bringing on the difficulty, and that Bateman, the deceased, was a man who bore a bad reputation, and that Caughman, the defendant, was tried in a county among strangers. This petition is signed by the Superintendent of Education, County Supervisor, County Treasurer, Coroner, Clerk, Board of County Commissioners, County Auditor, Judge of Probate, Clerk of Court, and Sheriff of the County of Lee, and I know of my own personal knowledge that no county in the State has a better set of officers, and I do not believe they would sign a petition asking for this boy's parole unless they knew what they were talking about and meant it. I know the people in Lee county, and they do not elect to office men who would carelessly sign their names to any statement. The petition is also signed by my good friend and substantial citizen, Walter L. Parrott, the Mayor of Bishopville, and the cashier of the Farmers Loan & Trust Company, and other prominent citizens of Bishopville. It is also signed by Rev. E. P. Hudson, who lives near where the two men lived, the deceased and the defendant, and nearly five hundred of the good citizens of Lee county, who are well acquainted with the petitioner; knew his character and reputation, and who were also well acquainted with the deceased, and knew his character and reputation, the signers living in the neighborhood where both the petitioner and the deceased were born and reared. The petition is also signed by Magistrate G. E. Rembert, M. B. McCutchins, J. Ed Lee, H. L. Skinner, Dr. S. B. DuBose, Rural Policeman E. B. Smith, Jas. M. Smith, chairman of the board of registration for Lee county; former Sheriff J. Manly Smith, Mr. R. M. Amon, Capt. W. T. Ball, E. B. DuRant, and many other good citizens of Lee county.

Another petition was presented, signed by a large number of good citizens of the county of Sumter, in which it is stated: "This young man was never in any trouble of any kind whatever before, and he is the main support of his old widowed mother, and this young man was without fault in bringing on the difficulty on the fatal day of the killing, and, as the best people know in this community, the deceased, Bateman, was a man of bad reputation, and young Caughman was tried in Sumter county, among strangers." This petition is signed by Magistrate F. L. Player, Geo. F. Epperson, Jno. I. Brunson, Thos. S. Sumter, and other good citizens of Sumter county. It also appears that the young man was prosecuted at the trial by the use of a large amount of money and as appearing for the State was the Honorable Mendel L. Smith, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Harmon D. Moise, Esq., of the Sumter bar,



and any one who knows these two distinguished prosecutors will agree with me that there was a large fee behind or they would not have been in the service, and must conclude that the State had a very weak case, or it would not have been necessary to have transported the Speaker of the House to Sumter county to secure a conviction, it being well known that the Speaker of the House, on account of his family connections, has great weight with a certain element of Sumter's citizenship, and I am informed that some of these connections were in service upon the jury.

Upon this very strong petition and excellent showing, the young man is paroled, in order that he may go back and continue to be of the good reputation which these good county officials and citizens give him, and be of service and comfort to his poor old widowed mother in her last days.

Parole dated December 11, 1913.

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CAVE, JAMES, *alias* JIM CAVE (colored): Convicted at the November, 1895, term of Court for Barnwell county, of burglary, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

On May 1, 1913, the Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"64.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition James Cave, *alias* Jim Cave, Barnwell county, convicted of burglary; sentenced life imprisonment, November 16, 1895.

Attorney C. Arthur Best was heard in behalf of the petitioner. This petition was signed by a good many of the best citizens of Barnwell county, including Auditor Riley, Judge of Probate Snelling, Clerk of Court Duncan, Sheriff Morris, Dr. E. L. Patterson, Messrs. E. W. Calhoun, W. F. Crouch, J. O. Patterson, Jr., Attorney S. M. Green and others. Solicitor Davis, who prosecuted the case, says that it is an outrage and the prisoner should be pardoned. Senator Patterson writes a strong endorsement for executive clemency. We recommend a parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Pardon Board."

Upon the petition submitted, and the above recommendation of the Board of Pardons, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 19, 1913.

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CHESTNUT, M. I. (white): Convicted at the May, 1912, term of Court for Horry county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months upon the public works.

Petition was presented by Hon. M. M. Stanley, member of the House of Representatives, from Horry county, in which, by personal letter, he particularly asks that this petition be granted. The petition is signed by the Clerk of Court, Auditor, Treasurer, Sheriff, Clerk of County Board of Commissioners, Probate Judge, foreman of the grand jury, two of the Magistrates, and one of the County Commissioners, of Horry county, and by more than one hundred of the citizens living in the neighborhood where this defendant resides.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior; and, upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the sentence above mentioned.

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CHOICE, LAWRENCE, *alias* BUSS CHOICE (colored): Convicted at the January, 1901, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, and sentenced to be hung on March 29, 1901. Sentence commuted, by former Governor, to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, March 18, 1901.

Petition in this case was presented by Mr. F. B. McBee, of Greenville, S. C., and is signed by Clerk of Court John M. Cureton, Register Mesne Conveyance H. B. Ingram, former Sheriff J. Perry Poole, Probate Judge Jno. T. Bramlett, Sheriff Hendrix Rector, J. W. Gray, Master; Dr. J. L. Garlington, and many of the other good citizens of the county of Greenville.

The following affidavit, which is self-explanatory, was also filed in this case:

"State of South Carolina, County of Greenville.

In Court of Sessions.

The State *v.* Lawrence Choice, *alias* Buss Choice.

Before me personally comes the deponent, F. P. McCarrell, who, being duly sworn, says that he is a resident of the city of Greenville,

State and county aforesaid; that he is one of the jurors that heard the above stated case and voted for conviction, which he would not have done had the testimony of E. E. Terry and Albert Stenhoufe been before the Court; that he knows both Terry and Stenhoufe and would have believed what they said; therefore, would never have consented to convict the defendant of more than manslaughter, if that.

(Signed) F. P. McCARRELL.

Sworn to before me this twenty-third of December, 1912.

(Signed) F. B. McBEE,  
Notary Public for S. C."

Upon the strong petition presented, the above quoted affidavit, and the further fact that this defendant has served nearly fourteen years imprisonment, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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CHUMLEY, LEO (white); CHUMLEY, FRANK (white): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to two years and three years, respectively, imprisonment upon the public works of Spartanburg county.

Petitions were presented, signed by D. M. Miles, County Supervisor; T. R. Trimmier, Register Mesne Conveyance; N. L. Bennett, Clerk of Court; J. J. Burnett, Judge of Probate; W. L. Epps, County Treasurer; W. J. White, Sheriff; Deputy Sheriff R. E. Miller, W. G. O'Shields, County Auditor; former Sheriff J. M. Nicholls, Representatives Harrelson and Fortner, Col. B. G. Landrum, Hon. C. P. Sims, and by seven hundred and fifty of the other good citizens of the county of Spartanburg, in which they ask, in view of the youth of the defendants, and the fact that they have served one year of the sentences imposed upon them, that they be granted a pardon.

Upon the petitions submitted, which are unusually strong, the defendants were granted paroles, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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CLEMENT, ANDERSON (colored): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Anderson county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years and six months upon the public works of Anderson county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. J. Mack King, member of the House of Representatives from Anderson county.



The petition states that the defendant and the slain man were brothers; the testimony further showed that the deceased was armed with a pistol, and that the defendant was unarmed; but that he picked up the weapon with which the killing was done, a shotgun, and used it immediately in firing, the fatal shot. The evidence further showed that the defendant had, only a few minutes before the killing, given the deceased a package of butter, thus indicating entire good feeling between the parties. The evidence showed that the deceased began the difficulty, by cursing the defendant; therefore, we earnestly recommend the pardon. This petition is signed by seven of the jurors, including Mr. B. B. Bleckley, the foreman; by three members of the House of Representatives from Anderson county, and by a large number of the best reputable white citizens of the community where the killing took place, who were thoroughly familiar with the facts and knew both the defendant and the deceased.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he refrain from the use of alcoholic liquors. Parole dated April 19, 1913.

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COBB, JULIUS (colored); COBB, DANIEL (colored): Convicted at the April, 1910, term of Court for Dorchester county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to eight years, each, imprisonment upon the public works of Dorchester county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by the Honorable Joseph Murray, Representative from the county of Dorchester. The petition is signed by a large number of the reputable citizens of the county of Dorchester; and, a separate petition is presented from the family of the deceased, in which they state that they think these men have been sufficiently punished, and ask that they be given another chance. The petition is also signed by Senator H. H. Gross, along with Representative Murray.

Upon the showing made, paroles were granted the defendants, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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COLE, W. K. (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of forgery and breach of trust (two cases), and sentenced to one year and three months, respectively, upon the public works of Greenville county.

Petition was presented, signed by Sheriff Hendrix Rector, Deputy Sheriff J. S. Hunsinger, Judge of Probate John T. Bramlett, County

Commissioner G. O. Bramlett, Clerk of Court Jno. M. Cureton, Dr. J. P. Carlisle, Magistrate Samuel Stradley, Master J. W. Gray, Magistrate J. L. Ballenger, Mayor Henry Briggs, Hon. H. P. Burbage, Representative Walter M. Scott, and many others of the best people in Greenville.

Also the following from Judge I. W. Bowman:

"His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina.

My Dear Sir: These cases were tried before me, and the defendant was found guilty. I imposed the lightest sentence allowed by law. But inasmuch as the defendant seems to be in desperate health, it, in my opinion, would be cruel to imprison him, so I sincerely request that your Excellency pardon or parole the said unfortunate defendant. Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) I. W. BOWMAN,

Judge First Circuit, Presiding in Tenth Circuit.

Greenville, S. C., May 14, 1913."

Upon the very strong petition presented, and the recommendation of Judge Bowman, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 16, 1913.

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COLLINS, FLOYD (white): Convicted at the November, 1911, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of larceny and forgery, and sentenced to two years and three years, respectively, imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by the Honorable C. C. Wyche, of Spartanburg, S. C.

The petition states that Collins is weak-minded and irresponsible, and was led into his trouble by another party.

The following recommendation was made by the Board of Pardons:

"Columbia, S. C., October 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Floyd Collins; Spartanburg; larceny; two years; November 29, 1911.

Mr. W. T. Collins, a brother of the petitioner, was heard in his behalf. We respectfully refer your Excellency to your action on the petition for clemency of Will Godfrey, who pleaded guilty in the same case. It may be that you would like to take the same action with reference to this petitioner, and for the same reasons that moved

you to act in the Godfrey case. We have not had that case before us. We respectfully refer you to our endorsement of July 3d. We think the 2d sentence, at least, should be suspended.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
D. H. MAGILL,  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
Board of Pardons."

This boy having served the two years imprisonment imposed upon him in the larceny case, and in view of the above recommendation from the Board of Pardons, and the numerously signed petitions submitted containing the names of several ladies, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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COLLY, NOCKEY (colored): Convicted at the March, 1910, term of Court for Barnwell county, of assault with intent to ravish, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment upon the public works of Barnwell county—the victim being a negro girl.

I am of the opinion, as I have always been, and have very serious doubt as to whether the crime of rape can be committed upon a negro—in fact, I see no use in trying a man and then letting him off with an eight-year sentence. If he is guilty of rape he should either be electrocuted or put in the Penitentiary for life, provided he gets to the courthouse; and, if he is not guilty, he ought to be acquitted and allowed to go free. There is no compromise on this crime; and, for that reason, I do not believe that the jury thought this boy very guilty, or the Judge would certainly not have let him off with such a sentence.

However, the petition is signed, asking for his release, by Clerk of Court W. H. Duncan, Auditor Riley, Mayor J. Emile Harley, Sheriff J. B. Morris, Hon. Chas. Carroll Simms, Judge of Probate Snelling, Hon. H. F. Buist, Hon. S. A. Wise, Hon. R. C. Holman, and many of the other good reputable citizens of Barnwell county, with the following endorsement from Attorney General Thomas H. Peeples:

"Am familiar with this case and am assured this petitioner has suffered sufficiently, even though he was convicted, and I am assured your Excellency will be fully justified in extending clemency in this instance.

(Signed) THOS. M. PEEPLES,  
Attorney General."



Upon this showing, the defendant having served four years of the sentence imposed upon him, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, December 31, 1913.

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COMER, JOHN, *alias* SWEET COMER (colored): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Union county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Union county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. J. Frost Walker, member of the House of Representatives from Union county.

The petition states that the defendant was convicted of manslaughter, he having killed one Irvin Comer, colored; that since being confined on the public works of Union county, the said John Comer has made a good prisoner, and for sometime has been a trusty upon said chain gang; that the evidence in this case tended to show that the deceased, Irvin Comer, was partly in fault in bringing on the difficulty, and we believe he has been sufficiently punished. The petition is signed by W. A. Robinson, County Commissioner; I. V. Acker, County Commissioner; Magistrate W. G. Puckett, Joseph Sanders, County Commissioner; W. A. Howell, Clerk of Commissioners; Sheriff J. H. Fant, Deputy Sheriff T. J. Vinson and E. B. Harris; Representative J. Frost Walker, Col. James G. Long, Foreman of the Jury F. H. Garner; Dr. J. G. Going, W. C. Williams, Master; Clerk of Court J. Frank Peake, and other good citizens of the town and county of Union.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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CONNELLY, ROBERT (colored): Convicted at the March, 1909, term of Court for Bamberg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This negro was convicted of killing another negro. Petition was presented, signed by seventy-five of the good citizens of Bamberg county, and the papers were endorsed as follows by ex-Solicitor James E. Davis:

"I am of opinion that the petitioner should have been punished as for manslaughter, and that five years is a sufficient punishment for

said offense. Hence, I recommend that the sentence be commuted to five years, he having already served four, as appears by the record.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) JAS. E. DAVIS,  
Ex-Solicitor."

August 30, 1913.

The trial Judge, Hon. R. C. Watts, made the following recommendation:

"To His Excellency, the Governor, Cole. L. Blease:

I have no recollection of the facts of the case at all, but as Solicitor Davis recommends the pardon, if he was Solicitor at that time, I see no reason why it should not be granted, but I think Hon. Jas. F. Byrnes was the Solicitor in 1909.

September 3, 1913. (Signed) R. C. WATTS, Judge."

In view of the petition presented, and the recommendations of Solicitor Davis and Judge Watts, the defendant having served nearly five years, a parole was granted him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

COOPER, FANNIE (colored): Convicted at the June, 1911, term of Court for Darlington county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following petition is self-explanatory:

"Columbia, S. C., January 18, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor:

We, the undersigned members of the South Carolina General Assembly, do earnestly pray that you parole Fannie Cooper, during good behavior, from Darlington county.

Also, we earnestly recommend that you have Sudie Jones transferred from the Penitentiary to the Asylum for Insane.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) C. D. FORTNER,  
N. C. CREECH,  
E. M. FRIPP,  
H. F. HARRELSON,  
J. P. DELAUGHTER,  
W. S. ROGERS, JR.,  
A. M. HOITT."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, January 28, 1913.

COOPER, J. H. (white): Convicted before Magistrate James H. Fowles, Jr., at Columbia, S. C., on October 1, 1913, of breach of trust with fraudulent intent, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Richland county.

The following communication was presented in behalf of this defendant:

"Columbia, S. C., October 16, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: We beg to bring to your attention the matter of J. H. Cooper, now serving a sentence of thirty days on the chain gang of Richland county. He was tried by Magistrate J. H. Fowles, about two weeks ago, upon a warrant charging him with breach of trust of the sum of \$8, and was found guilty and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 or to work upon the chain gang for a period of thirty days. He was unable to pay the fine, and was consequently sent to the gang, where he has been for about two weeks. Mr. Cooper has a wife and child dependent upon him entirely for support, and they are now in great distress, in fact, they are now in need of the actual necessities of life. In view of the fact that he has now served two weeks or one-half of his time, we beg to urge you to grant him a pardon or commutation for the balance of his sentence.

Most respectfully,

(Signed) J. E. TURNER,  
L. L. BRODIE,  
R. L. COCKRELL."

Upon the petition above quoted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form; and, upon the further condition that should he hereafter be convicted of violating any of the laws of the State of South Carolina, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the above mentioned sentence. Parole dated October 17, 1913.

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Cox, A. L. (white): Convicted at the Fall, 1912, term of Court for Richland county, of larceny (two cases), and sentenced to one year in each case—total of two years—imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition in this case was presented by an old gray-haired mother, who lives in Miami, Florida, in which she pleads that her boy be given one more chance. With her prayer for mercy for her



son, she presented a certificate from the Florida Hospital for the Insane, signed by James H. Randolph, in which it is shown that Albert Cox, this boy, had been an inmate of that asylum; but that his mind having been restored, he was released therefrom. Accompanying this petition is a certificate from the Penitentiary Physician of this State, in which he states that: "I have examined Albert Cox several times and find that his mental condition is very bad at times. At other times his mind is clear, but as a general thing his mental condition is poor. (Signed) R. T. Jennings, M. D. P. P." Also a certificate from Superintendent Griffith, of the Penitentiary, in which he states: "In my opinion, his mind is very weak." Also, a letter from the municipal Judge of the city of Miami, Florida, in which he states: "And he is really not responsible for his acts; he is very simple and can be led astray very easily. (Signed) Paul G. Phillips."

He has already served six months imprisonment in the Penitentiary for the supposed theft of two suit cases, valued at \$114. I presume they were filled with second-hand clothing, and seriously doubt if they were worth that amount. In view of the condition of the boy's mind, I returned him to his old mother, with the understanding that she take him out of the State,—the conditions of the parole, which was granted to him on March 24, 1913, being, "Upon the condition that he leave the State of South Carolina and never return; should he ever return, he shall be arrested and required to serve the remainder of the above mentioned sentence."

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COX, LELAND (white): Convicted at the March, 1912, term of Court for Oconee county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Oconee county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Leland Cox; Oconee; assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature; three years; March 15, 1912.

Deputy Sheriff H. P. Holloman was heard in behalf of the petitioner. This petition is signed by all of the county officials and others prominent in the county, including the County Physician, who certifies to the prisoner's being in very bad health, suffering from tuberculosis, and is a menace to all of the prisoners and other occu-

pants of the county jail. The prisoner is not able to perform manual labor. We recommend a parole, during good behavior, after having served six months of his sentence.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
D. H. MAGILL,  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
Board of Pardons."

The petition is signed by the foreman and nine other members of the jury, who tried the case, in which they ask that the defendant be granted a pardon or parole.

The papers state that the defendant began serving his sentence on March 1, 1913. In view of the petitions presented and the recommendation of the Board of Pardons,—more than six months having been served by the defendant,—he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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COX, WADE G. (white): Convicted at the March, 1911, term of Court for Oconee county, of assault with intent to ravish, and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment upon the public works of Oconee county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The following petition was submitted from the members of the grand jury:

"State of South Carolina, County of Oconee.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina:

We, the undersigned members of the grand jury of Oconee county, as a body, recommend to your Excellency that you grant a full and complete pardon to Wade G. Cox. We have investigated the case, and we are satisfied that Cox is not guilty of the charge.

(Signed) C. R. D. BURNS, Foreman;  
H. C. BUSCH, Member of Grand Jury;  
W. M. FENNEL, Member of Grand Jury;  
G. W. KAY, Member of Grand Jury;  
W. H. MURPHRIES, Member of Grand Jury;  
A. T. SMITH, Member of Grand Jury;  
R. B. SINGLETON, Member of Grand Jury;  
T. G. BURNS, Member of Grand Jury;  
D. O. CHANDLER, Member of Grand Jury;  
L. O. BRUCE, Member of Grand Jury;

M. L. COX, Member of Grand Jury;  
 G. B. WHITTEN, Member of Grand Jury;  
 R. F. KACEFUSAN (?) Member of Grand Jury;  
 W. B. NORRIS, Member of Grand Jury."

Also, petition from the citizens of the mill village of Westminster Knitting Mill, the home of Wade Cox, the defendant, and Annie Cox, signed by a very large number of men and women who ask a pardon for the defendant.

Also, another petition from the citizens of Westminster, signed by a large number of influential men and ladies of the town, including merchants, bankers, physicians and preachers.

Another petition is submitted from Walhalla, signed by the County Supervisor, County Treasurer, County Auditor, W. L. Vernon, cashier of a bank; W. O. White, Master; Geo. Seyburn, B. F. Sloan, M. D., and many other prominent citizens of that community.

In addition to the various petitions presented, a large number of personal letters and affidavits, too numerous to mention, have been received, and which are on file in the office subject to inspection by any one who wishes to see them. Also, the entire testimony in the case was filed with the petitions.

In addition to the above, another petition was filed, signed by ex-Sheriff Kay, Clerk of Court John F. Craig and other prominent citizens of Walhalla.

In a private letter, Clerk of Court John F. Craig states that it is the universal opinion of all that Cox should be paroled, during good behavior.

County Treasurer W. J. Schroder, in a private letter, says the best citizens of Oconee county join him in asking for a pardon, and more especially those who have known the prosecutrix all her life; for, "it is the opinion of every one, that Cox is not guilty."

The Judge of Probate of Oconee county, the Hon. D. A. Smith, writes, that "it is a case in which I think executive clemency should be exercised, and I feel sure that the whole of Oconee county have the same opinion."

Ex-Sheriff W. M. Kay, in a personal communication, states: "I was born and reared at Westminster, and knowing all of the parties connected in the case of the State *v.* Wade Cox, and knowing the opinion of all the good citizens of Oconee county, I beg to state that it is the universal opinion of everyone that this is a case in which the



whole of Oconee county would join in asking for a parole, and it is one in which a pardon should be granted."

The County Auditor, Hon. R. W. Grubbs, in a personal letter, states: "All of the best citizens of the county of Oconee favor a pardon in this case, and it is a case in which I think a pardon should be granted."

All of the above mentioned petitions, private letters and recommendations are on file in the Governor's office, subject to perusal by anyone who may call and wish to see them,—all of which have been carefully considered before granting to the defendant a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he abstain entirely from the use of alcoholic liquors or beverages. Should he violate the conditions of this parole, he shall be recommitted to the State Penitentiary to serve the remainder of the sentence imposed,—the said parole being dated June 27, 1913.

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CRAIG, BARBER (colored): Convicted at the March, 1909, term of Court for Lancaster county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented, signed by the foreman and eight of the other jurors who tried this case, in which they state: "That your petitioners think that said sentence was too severe under all the circumstances; that the said Barber Craig has now served upon the public works of Lancaster county for a period of almost four years, and has, in the opinion of your petitioners, who tried the case, suffered sufficiently for the crime for which he was charged and convicted, and your petitioners earnestly pray that your Excellency will grant him a pardon."

In addition to the above petition, another petition was presented, signed by the Clerk of Court, Sheriff, Judge of Probate, County Treasurer, Auditor of Lancaster county, also members of the House of Representatives Massey and Sapp, and by Senator Strait.

Several affidavits were also submitted, and another petition, signed by many of the good citizens of Lancaster county.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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CRAPPS, JESSE W., or JESSE W. CRAPPES: Convicted at the November, 1904, term of Court for Colleton county, of murder, with

recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

A petition was presented in behalf of this defendant by Major E. F. Warren, on December 19, 1911. The same being referred to the Board of Pardons, they made the following recommendation:

"41. Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Jesse W. Crapps or Crappes, Colleton county; convicted of murder; sentence life imprisonment; November 25, 1904.

We continued this from our October meeting for further information and now feel disposed under the showing made and information in our possession, to recommend a parole, during good behavior. The Chairman of this Board did not sit in consideration of this case, for reasons which will appear from the perusal of the papers.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

On January 22, 1913, Senator Ginn, of Hampton, and Senator Richardson, of Jasper, also Senator J. D. Ackerman, of Colleton, who was foreman of the jury who tried the case, appeared in person and requested the parole of this man,—making the following endorsement upon the petition:

"We recommend parole in this case.

(Signed) E. R. GINN, S. S.;

J. C. RICHARDSON, S. S.;

J. D. ACKERMAN, S. S.

Columbia, S. C., January 22, 1913."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, January 22, 1913.

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CREWELL, MANNING (colored): Convicted at the Fall term, 1909, Court of General Sessions for Kershaw county, Judge R. W. Memminger presiding, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment at hard labor.

Petition was presented by Hon. L. A. Wittowsky, Master of Kershaw county, the petition setting out the fact that the defendant was a boy of the age of sixteen years, and was convicted along with one Stephen Wiley, and each sentenced to five years on the chain gang.

(See Statement of Pardons and Paroles 1911-12, page 133, Wiley matter, in which Solicitor W. H. Cobb and Judge Memminger recommend clemency.) Petition for this boy's parole is signed by County Supervisor, County Auditor, County Treasurer, State Senator Kershaw county, and also by H. G. Carrison, foreman of the jury; Editor Birchmore, of *The Messenger*; Dr. W. J. Dunn, and other prominent citizens of the county.

Upon the showing made in the Wiley case, cited above, and in view of the petition here presented, defendant is paroled, May 6, 1913, during his good behavior.

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CROSBY, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the Spring, 1910, term of Court for Anderson county, of murder, and sentenced to be hung. Sentence commuted to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, March 18, 1911.

The following certificates were filed in this case by Col. C. E. Tolley, of Anderson, S. C.:

"State of South Carolina, County of Anderson.

To His Excellency, Governor Col. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.:

Whereas, One John Crosby was tried at the Court of General Sessions for Anderson county, at the Spring term of Court, 1910, before Judge John S. Wilson, for the killing of a negro named Ed Acker, and was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hung; and whereas, your Excellency afterwards commuted his sentence to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary; and whereas, we, the undersigned, sons of the said Ed Acker, deceased, feel that the said John Crosby has been sufficiently punished for the killing of our father, Ed Acker, we do hereby petition your Excellency to pardon or parole the said John Crosby, so that he may return to his family and provide a support for same. All of which is respectfully submitted, this 27th day of October, 1913.

his  
(Signed) HARRISON X ACKER.  
mark

his  
(Signed) WILL X ACKER.  
mark

Witnesses:

A. Davis Fant,  
Wm. J. Muldrow,  
N. W. Cann."



"State of South Carolina, County of Anderson.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.:

Whereas, One John Crosby was tried at the Court of General Sessions for Anderson county, at the Spring term, 1910, before Judge John S. Wilson, for the killing of a negro named Ed Acker, and was convicted of murder and sentenced to hang; and whereas, your Excellency afterwards commuted his sentence to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary; and whereas, I, the undersigned, the wife of the said Ed Acker, deceased, think that the said John Crosby has been sufficiently punished for the killing of Ed Acker, my husband, I do hereby petition your Excellency to grant the said John Crosby a pardon or parole, so that he may return to his family.

October 27, 1913. (Signed) BETTIE LAMBS."

Upon the affidavits above quoted, the defendant having been imprisoned for over three years, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

CUFFY, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the November, 1910, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, and sentenced to be hung. Former Governor\*Ansel commuted the sentence to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, on December 27, 1910.

Petition was presented by Dr. J. S. Dean, of Greenville, S. C.

The Clerk of Court for Greenville county, Hon. Jno. M. Cureton, in writing of this case, states: "Cuffy killed his wife. He shot at Jess Fuller, a white man, who had Cuffy's wife in the woods and he killed his wife instead of Fuller. Many of the people here think Cuffy ought to be released. I am fully of this opinion.

Very truly, (Signed) JNO. M. CURETON."

The petition presented is signed by Clerk of Court Jno. M. Cureton, Treasurer J. A. Foster, and about fifty of the other good citizens of Greenville county.

Upon the petition presented, and the circumstances surrounding this case, and the further fact that the sentence was commuted to ten years, from death, by a former Governor, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

CULPEPPER, PINKIE (colored): Convicted at the September, 1911, term of Court for Lexington county, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented in which it is stated: "Petitioner was charged with shooting her husband. At the time of the trouble, your petitioner, weak and ill; the deceased commenced to abuse her and to threaten her life without any cause. He grew worse and told her that he was going to kill her. He had once before shot at her, so she grabbed the gun with the purpose of keeping him from getting it. He advanced on her with a heavy iron pan, making threats, and she being too weak and sick to escape, she shot and struck him, from which wound he died."

This petition is signed by Mrs. Lizzie B. Geiger, Mrs. S. P. Hollo-day, Mrs. P. H. Corley, Mrs. C. B. Roser, Mrs. W. N. Martin, Mrs. E. V. Swygert, Sim J. Miller, Sheriff of Lexington county; Frank W. Shealy, Clerk of Court; S. J. Leaphart, Postmaster; D. R. Haltiwanger, Deputy Clerk; Julian R. Corley, Assistant Postmaster; Hon. F. E. Dreher, Dr. J. W. Geiger, and other prominent citizens of the county of Lexington.

Solicitor Timmerman, under date of May 6th, endorsed the petition as follows:

"Lexington, S. C., May 6, 1913.

PETITION FOR PARDON, PINKIE CULPEPPER.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I herewith return petition in above matter, with recommendation that she be paroled, during good behavior, after the expiration of three years of her sentence of five years. I make this recommendation for several reasons: First, I do not regard her, and did not at the time of her trial, as a person strong, either mentally or physically; second, the facts developed in her case did not impress me as being of an extremely aggravated nature; and, third, her petition is signed by some good white men and women, whom I know, certifying that her conduct before and since this killing has been good, all of which I think deserving consideration.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) GEO. BELL TIMMERMAN, Solicitor."

Judge Memminger, who tried the case, made the following endorsement upon the petition:

"I am satisfied to concur in the recommendation of Mr. Solicitor Timmerman herewith filed.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) R. W. MEMMINGER.

May 23, 1913, Paris, France, 118 Rue de Vaugraud."

In view of the strong petition submitted, and the recommendation of Judge Memminger and Solicitor Timmerman, this woman having been confined on the public works of Lexington county since September, 1911, and having served several months in jail awaiting trial, a parole, during good behavior, was granted to her on June 5, 1913.

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CUNNINGHAM, MAXIE (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Richland county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to four years imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county.

A petition was presented in behalf of this defendant, in which it is stated that "he was tried and convicted along with one Arthur Lovett, of grand larceny; that the evidence produced at the trial of the cause was largely circumstantial; that the amount involved was less than one dollar; that a parole, during good behavior, was recently granted to the said Lovett, and, taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case, your petitioners feel that the same clemency should be extended to Maxie Cunningham, and do hereby petition your Excellency to grant to the said Maxie Cunningham a parole, during good behavior."

The petition is signed by Mr. W. McB. Sloan, foreman of the jury who tried the case, and by the following jurors: G. H. Pou, S. B. Hyatt, W. W. Martin, C. N. Koon. The petition is also signed by Hon. W. Boyd Evans, and others.

The petition presented in the Lovett case is set out in full—the same being presented by Dr. E. C. L. Adams—and should be taken into consideration along with the above mentioned petition,—both defendants being convicted at the same time and for the same offense.

In view of the petition presented, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he go to the city of Danville, Virginia, IMMEDIATELY, and support his sister, and upon the further condition that should he ever return to the State of South Carolina, he shall be arrested and required to serve the remainder of the above sentence. Parole dated June 2, 1913.

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CUNNINGHAM, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the July, 1907, term of Court for Chester county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to six years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.



The following report was made by the Board of Pardons:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* John Cunningham; Chester; manslaughter; six years; July 2, 1907.

This is a request for clemency from the Board of County Commissioners of Chester county that they be allowed to give the prisoner credit for three months on his sentence for good behavior. If the Governor's authority is necessary to do this, we think probably a parole would be better. We, therefore, recommend that the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior, as the sentence is served if a credit of three months be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 3, 1913.

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DAVIS, JIM (colored): Convicted at the September, 1904, term of Court for Richland county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following communication was received from Hon. Porter A. McMaster, of Columbia, S. C.:

"Columbia, S. C., July 6, 1913.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: *In re* petition for pardon of Jim Davis.

In records of Sessions Court, No. 4013, for Richland county, it appears that Jim Davis plead guilty to an indictment for burglary and larceny and was sentenced by Judge Purdy to an imprisonment for ten years.

The indictment alleges that he entered the house of one named Ready and stole ten dollars in currency and one pistol of the value of three dollars.

On the back of the indictment there is also a list of twelve jurymen, with a verdict of guilty, with recommendation to the mercy of the Court.

It is usual now for Judges in this Court to sentence to five years when there are no unusual circumstances about the offense charged.

This man was sentenced on the 6th day of September, 1904, almost ten years having passed.

His old mother, who is very feeble, seems very anxious to get him out, and I have hunted up these records and join her in the hope that her wish will be granted.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) PORTER A. McMASTER."

The above communication is accompanied by a petition, signed by several citizens.

In view of the letter from Mr. McMaster, the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant has served such a long term of imprisonment—nine years of a ten-year sentence—he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

DEWITT, WILLIE (white): Convicted on February 10, 1913, before Mayor A. B. Hair, of Blackville, S. C., of being drunk and disorderly (two cases), and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 or serve thirty days on the public works, in each case.

The following petition was submitted:

"State of South Carolina, County of Barnwell.

Blackville, S. C., February 12, 1913.

Town Council, Blackville, *v.* Willie DeWitt.

Offense: Charged with being disorderly and drunk in two cases. Violating town ordinance.

Whereas, Willie DeWitt, of the town of Blackville, S. C., stands indicted and charged by and before the Town Council of Blackville, and was tried and fined in two cases for violating the town ordinance, *i. e.*, being drunk and disorderly, and was fined in each case \$50 or thirty days on the county chain gang in each case.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole: L. Blease:

We, the undersigned citizens of the town of Blackville, S. C., respectfully petition your Excellency to commute the said sentence and fine absolutely, or reduce the same to the minimum, *i. e.*, \$1 or one day in each case, or reduce the same to such a fine as your Excellency may deem adequate to meet the exigencies of the law. We think the fine and punishment imposed too exorbitant for the offense committed.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) H. F. BUIST, Attorney;

LUTHER MOODY,

D. O. FANNING,  
 C. S. AHL,  
 L. G. STEINBELLE,  
 J. S. CREECH,  
 B. J. McKERLEY,  
 C. M. PENDER,  
 KEYS SANDERS,  
 JEROME MARTIN,  
 W. H. JOHNSON,  
 C. S. BUIST,  
 C. H. RHODEN,  
 J. M. McCLENDON,  
 J. J. STILL,  
 C. S. WILSON,  
 R. E. SWEAT,  
 W. R. COOK,  
 H. L. DeWITT,  
 M. McCLENDON,  
 R. M. WISE,  
 M. W. WISE,  
 E. W. SMOAK,  
 W. W. MARTIN,  
 L. L. BROOKER,  
 H. D. STILL, SR.,  
 WILLIE W. HAIR,  
 G. C. STILL,  
 I. H. STILL,  
 C. L. STRINGFELLOW,  
 J. W. HAIR, Magistrate;  
 T. R. CHISHOLM,  
 B. R. YOSS,  
 GEO. W. WILLIAMS, JR.,  
 H. D. STILL, JR.,  
 V. S. NEVILS,  
 C. C. STORNE,  
 G. W. GARDNER,  
 J. S. J. FAUST."

Upon this petition, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, February 13, 1913.



EDWARDS, TOM (colored): Convicted at the June, 1909, term of Court for Abbeville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Mr. C. J. Bruce, rural policeman for Abbeville county, accompanied by a letter, in which he states that this negro is simple-minded, and after the verdict, which was a consent verdict of murder, with recommendation to mercy, the negro asked the Judge what his fine was, as he wanted to pay same. The petition states that "the crime for which he was convicted occurred in the defense of his mother, who is an ex-slave, old and indigent, and who now sadly needs his services in her support." The petition is numerously signed by the citizens of the section in which the crime was committed—Calhoun Falls. According to Rural Policeman Bruce, "it has nearly every man in Calhoun Falls." Including the signers of the petition are Magistrate Joseph Hicks, Town Clerk W. E. Gambrell, L. M. Parker, agent of the C. & W. C.; the Chief of Police of the town; Mr. W. H. Hester, the Intendant; Dr. J. V. Tate, Dr. F. C. Hodges, Mr. Beverly H. Tucker, Assistant Postmaster; Mr. W. E. Redd, superintendent of the cotton mills; Mr. W. J. Tucker, cashier of the Bank of Calhoun Falls; Mr. W. F. Smith, agent of the Seaboard Air Line, and many other citizens of the town and community.

Upon the petition submitted, and taking into consideration the condition of the defendant's mind, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

ELDER, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Kershaw county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Kershaw county.

Petition was presented by Hon. Claude N. Sapp, member of the House of Representatives from Lancaster county, in which it is stated that the defendant was advised to plead guilty, and that an arrangement had been made with the Solicitor whereby he (the defendant) would be sentenced to pay a fine of \$100. That after the said plea of guilty was entered, the defendant was sentenced to serve three years upon the public works, without the alternative of a fine.

This petition is verified by affidavit of Mr. W. U. Clyburn, in which he states that he advised the negro to plead guilty, with the

understanding with the Solicitor that a fine of \$100 was to be imposed; that he would pay the fine, and that it would be cheaper for him than to make a fight and employ attorneys.

The petition is signed by both members of the House of Representatives from the county of Lancaster; by the Mayor of Kershaw, Senator Hough, Dr. W. J. Dunn, Clerk of Court Clyburn, County Auditor, County Treasurer, Sheriff Huckabee, and quite a number of the other prominent citizens living in the community where the offense was committed, including E. D. Blakeley and John T. Stevens.

Upon this petition, the negro having served three months on the county chain gang, a parole, during good behavior, was granted the defendant on May 30, 1913.

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ELDER, BROOKS (colored): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Kershaw county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to serve three years upon the public works of Kershaw county.

Petition was presented by Hon. Claude N. Sapp, member of the House of Representatives from Lancaster county, in which it is stated that the defendant was advised to plead guilty, and that an arrangement had been made with the Solicitor whereby he (the defendant) would be sentenced to pay a fine of \$100. That after the said plea of guilty was entered, the defendant was sentenced to serve three years upon the public works, without the alternative of a fine.

This petition is verified by affidavit of Mr. W. U. Clyburn, in which he states that he advised the negro to plead guilty with the understanding with the Solicitor that a fine of \$100 was to be imposed; that he would pay the fine, and that it would be cheaper for him than to make a fight and employ attorneys.

The petition is signed by both members of the House of Representatives from the county of Lancaster; by the Mayor of Kershaw, Senator Hough, Dr. W. J. Dunn, Clerk of Court Clyburn, County Auditor, County Treasurer, Sheriff Huckabee, and quite a number of the other prominent citizens living in the community where the offense was committed, including E. D. Blakeley and John T. Stevens.

Upon the petition presented, the negro having served three months on the county chain gang, a parole, during good behavior, was granted the defendant on May 30, 1913.

ELLIS, SIMEON (colored): Convicted at the 1902 (April) term of Court for Union county, of murder, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

My reasons for granting a parole to this defendant were set out in full in a message to the General Assembly, dated February 25, 1913, and which I quote in full below:

"Message No. 44.

The State of South Carolina—Executive Department.

Gentlemen of the General Assembly: I transmit to you herewith letter received by me on the morning of February 25, 1913:

February 23, 1913.

His Excellency, Governor Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Honorable Sir: Simeon Ellis (colored), a prisoner \* \* \* I understand was talking to you yesterday, Saturday, on the street. He was working on the city street detail, and as you passed asked his guard, Corporal Boykin, to speak to you and Boykin refused him the permission to do so, and he spoke to you anyhow.

Today he was brought up before Captain Sondley by Boykin and was sentenced to the stocks, and Ellis says he was struck 45 or 50 lashes, he cannot say the exact number, and his back now shows the result from his head down to his hips.

I am telling you this as a matter of information, which I think you will be glad to know at this time, as I am very well posted as to what your policies are regarding such things regarding the State Penitentiary.

Therefore I do not hesitate to send you this information, as I know that you will not give the source of your information.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) .....

Monday morning.

Ellis was taken to the blacksmith shop and a pair of very short shackles put on him, and he then told the Captain and Dr. Jennings that he was going to tell you the first chance that he had been whipped for talking to you. Then he was taken to the shop again to have the chain lengthened, and while this was being done he had a fit. He is subject to such spells. The chains were cut off him and he was taken to the hospital, where he now is. I understand he is in serious condition.

Later: To still further punish this poor, ignorant, defenseless negro, Dr. Jennings *applied a strong electric battery* to him and tor-



tured him for more than a half hour. *His screams and cries and piteous appeals for mercy could be heard all over the Penitentiary grounds.'*

Upon receipt of this letter Colonel Aull, my private secretary, requested Captain of the Guard Sondley, at the State Penitentiary, to bring this prisoner to my office at five o'clock p. m. He was brought in his prison garb, closely shackled, with a chain around both legs. As to his physical condition, I leave the description of that for Representatives C. C. Wyche, Mitchum and Fortner, who were present and saw the negro's back and hips.

This is but another instance which came to my ears only by accident, and which I am giving to you for the purpose of showing that I am doing what I can to relieve suffering humanity, and that I am only heeding the demands of humanity upon me.

After finding that the negro had been in the Penitentiary thirteen years for killing another negro, and feeling sure that if I returned him to the Penitentiary as a prisoner he would again be whipped, shocked and possibly killed, I granted him a parole during his good behavior.

In taking this course I am satisfied that I am not only heeding the demands of humanity, but that I am upholding the letter and the spirit of our Constitution, which provides in Section 19 of Article I, 'nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted,' and 'CORPORAL PUNISHMENT SHALL NOT BE INFLICTED!'

The letter which I have transmitted to you says that when this negro was tortured with 'a strong electric battery \* \* \* for more than a half hour, his screams and cries and piteous appeals for mercy could be heard all over the Penitentiary grounds.' They reached my ears. *They have now reached yours.* The demand upon me was *not for mercy, but for justice*, and I believe that justice was secured from me, so far as in my power lay to give it. *What will you do?*

Very respectfully,

(Signed) COLE. L. BLEASE,

Columbia, S. C., February 25, 1913.

Governor."

Parole granted, during good behavior, February 25, 1913.

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ELLIS, HARRY (colored): Convicted at the January, 1910, term of Court for Greenville county, of burglary, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"79.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Harry Ellis, Greenville county, convicted of burglary, sentenced five years, January, 1910.

The prisoner has served over three years of his sentence. Judge Wilson recommends pardon. Solicitor Bonham does not oppose executive clemency, says prisoner is simple-minded and did not realize the seriousness of his crime. The petition is signed by many good citizens of Greenville, including Sheriff Rector, J. Frank Epps, John T. Bramlett, J. P. Carlisle and others. This showing moves us to recommend parole.

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Pardon Board."

Upon this recommendation, and the petitions submitted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 31, 1913.

ELLISON, JOHN C. (white): Convicted at the May, 1912, term of Court for Anderson county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petitions presented in this case are signed by 1,702 of the white citizens of this State, asking that John C. Ellison be pardoned or paroled. In the petitions, it is set out that the man killed came to Ellison's home; was drunk and first assaulted Ellison; refused to leave the premises, and in the fight which ensued, was on Ellison's premises. The petitions further state that the widow of the deceased man accepted \$2,750 from Ellison as a compromise for the killing of her husband. This, indeed, was a peculiar proceeding, and I must say, the first time I have ever heard of such in the State of South Carolina—a widow accepting the pitiful and paltry sum of \$2,750 to relieve the suffering of her widow's weeds and to dry her widow's tears. I think, as soon as she accepted this money, Ellison should have been freed. Really, I don't understand it; I cannot understand it, and I think before Ellison paid this money he should have taken a receipt which should have read something like this:

"Received of John C. Ellison \$2,750 in payment of my husband, and for which he is released, so far as I am concerned, from all further liability and responsibility." However, the 1,700 white people who signed the petitions include members of the Legislature, county officials (not all of either, however), ministers of the gospel, large and influential farmers, cotton mill operatives, and other good and substantial citizens, and it seems to me that it is nothing but right that I should obey their request. They know the circumstances; they know the conditions; they know Ellison, and they knew the man he killed; but, in addition to this, I received a copy of resolutions passed by the Sunday school people, with which Ellison had long been connected, one clause being, "That our prayers ascend in his behalf, and we hope the time will soon come when we can have him back with us." This is handed to me, as passed by a unanimous vote of the school.

In addition to the above, I have strong personal letters from his neighbors. One from a good woman, in which she says: "If you could see his lonely wife and sad, sweet little girls, I think you would pardon or parole him." Another good woman writes: "I have known Mr. Ellison for a number of years, and have always known him to be a generous, kind-hearted man, not only sweet and good to his own family, but nice and good to everybody, and if anyone got in trouble or needed a favor, they knew where to go. J. C. Ellison is one of the best men in our community." This is signed by a good man and one of his closest neighbors. Another good woman and close neighbor says: "I have known Mr. Ellison all my life; he is one of the best men I have ever known; he has always been good to his mother and his family, and he is sober and upright. I have never known him to be in any fuss of any kind until he had this trouble with Hunt." I wish I could publish these letters in full. These synopses of them can nothing like do justice to the case. Another letter was received from a young lady, who says: "I boarded in their home (referring to the Ellisons) from the first of November, 1911, until the middle of May, 1912. I was there day and night, and I have never had better treatment in any home in which I have boarded. I do know that Mr. Ellison is a fine and indulgent man, and in his community whatever tends to uplift and upbuild finds in him an earnest supporter. During the entire time I was in his home I never saw him use whiskey, and I never heard of any noisy conduct on his part, neither at home nor



abroad." This young lady is from a fine family; is herself a school teacher, and lives in a different part of the State from Ellison.

I also received a communication from the minister who performed the burial services over the dead man, in which he says: "I was in the community when he was killed and buried him. The dead man was a close friend of mine. Mr. Ellison is not and never has been, because our acquaintance was limited. I have a church in that community, and have watched Mr. Ellison very closely; he has been in regular attendance, and I honestly believe that he will make a good Christian gentleman if given another chance. I sincerely hope that you will give him the pardon."

In addition to these, I have certificate from Dr. C. N. Wyatt, in which he says he has been Mr. Ellison's family physician for fifteen years, and that Mr. Ellison's mother's people were and are tubercular, the entire family having died of tubercular trouble.

Also a letter from Dr. C. N. Tripp, who says that he finds Ellison suffering from neurasthenia and nervous indigestion, and that it is questionable in his mind as to whether he is in the incipient stage of tuberculosis or not.

Another certificate, from Dr. W. A. Tripp, states that his mother died with tuberculosis, also his aunts, on his mother's side, and that in his opinion he will never live over two years of his sentence when placed in a life of a prisoner.

In addition to the various strong petitions which have been presented, and the many certificates of the different doctors who have certified to the bad health of this defendant, now comes his wife with six little girl children, and states to me, not in dishonor, not in shame, but in a matter of the love of her children, and in humiliation, that she and her six little children and her poor mother are actually suffering, in need and in want. These little children come and plead for their father. To yield to this mother and to these children would be yielding but to a sentiment, which a strong man must resist, but they are fortified with the strongest of petitions, with physicians' certificates—yea, more, with the record that the wife of the bosom of the dead man has accepted \$2,750 as her pound of flesh from Shylock for the killing of her husband. If she can sell him for \$2,750, if she can relieve her widow's weeds and choke her sobbings with money, if she can be satisfied with a few paltry dollars for the life of the man who had sworn to love and protect her through life, and when she had promised to honor and obey, it seems to me that the grand old Palmetto State can look with pity and

compassion upon this mother whose husband has paid that \$2,750 and upon these six little girl children who are pleading today for mercy.

Taking into consideration all of these matters, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, August 15, 1913.

ELMORE, M. C. (white): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Darlington county, of forgery, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works of Darlington county.

Petition was presented by Mr. W. M. Copeland, of Timmons-ville, S. C., and is signed by him, W. L. Copeland, W. H. Lowman, M. B. Andrews, David Williams, J. T. Hill, and many other prominent citizens of the community where this offense occurred.

The Solicitor, who prosecuted the case, made the following endorsement upon the petition:

"I recommend a parole on good behavior.

(Signed) J. M. SPEARS."

Upon the showing made, the defendant having served more than eight months of a twelve months sentence, a parole was granted to him, during good behavior, May 28, 1913.

ELROD, THOMAS (white): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Pickens county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petitions were presented by Mr. W. H. Johnson, of Easley, S. C. One petition presented is as follows:

"We, the undersigned jurors who found Thomas Elrod guilty of murder, with recommendation to mercy, at February term of Court, 1912, for Pickens county, hereby respectfully ask that you pardon said Elrod. (Signed) B. A. Foster, T. T. Keith, A. A. Jones, L. T. Wimpey, G. W. Lathum, J. A. Mullinix, J. A. Hunnicutt, B. F. Alexander, W. M. LaBoon, A. R. Hamilton."

Another petition was presented in which it is stated that the deceased was killed at a place of disreputable women, and that the women were the cause of the difficulty, and request that the party be pardoned. This petition is signed by James P. Carey, Jr., H. A. Richey, Jno. B. Craig, Ivy M. Mauldin, and a very large number of the other citizens of the county of Pickens. In view of this petition, along with the petition above quoted from the jurors, the



defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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EMMERSON, J. ALLEN (white): Convicted at the February, 1907, term of Court for Anderson county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The facts and circumstances of this case are very much in dispute. I do not care to go into the cause of this killing, as it has already brought shame enough upon two prominent families of Anderson county. The evidence is conflicting—one statement\* is that this man had been ordered from this home, and told not to come back. Another is that the father of this girl invited Allen Emmerson to come to his home, or near his home, and do some work for the benefit of the old man, and that while this work was being done, that the old man invited Emmerson into his home, notwithstanding the fact that he knew what had gone on, and it was while being at the home or near the home, at the request of the father, that this unfortunate occurrence took place. These facts are disputed, but there is no question that the father knew of the conduct of this man and his daughter, which had been going on for months. There is no doubt that the father had let this daughter move into his home after this conduct. There is no doubt that this father made this request of Emmerson, as to doing this work, which would throw him near this woman again, and it is very unfortunate indeed that he should have allowed Emmerson to come around him at all, and much more unfortunate that he should have asked him to come.

There have been petitions presented signed by such people as R. M. Cleveland, J. Harvey Cleveland, R. R. King, W. A. Fitton, A. W. Jones, John A. Holmes, E. C. Elmore, Henry A. Williams, I. M. Mauldin, Geo. M. Bishop, Mrs. George M. Bishop, Mrs. A. C. Latimer, Mrs. R. A. Lewis, Mrs. A. P. Warnick, Wrs. W. H. Cobb, Sr., Mrs. E. H. McDavid, Mrs. W. A. Clement, W. T. Tate, Mrs. W. T. Tate, Mrs. Jas. M. Raysor, and by a very large number of the other good ladies and men—at least two thousand. Of course, it is impossible to give the names of all the ladies or of all the men who have signed these petitions. On one of the petitions are the names of a very large number, I presume all, of the operatives of the Belton Cotton Mills. I wish it were possible to publish in these reasons the names of every man and woman who signed the peti-



tions. I am sure that it would be interesting reading to the people of Anderson county. We find on another petition the names of Wm. J. Muldrow, Chief of Police Fortune, Hon. A. H. Dagnall, Sergeant Campbell, Magistrate Green, Dr. Sullivan, Representative O. D. Gray, Hon. Alvin H. Dean, Dr. J. P. Carlisle, Dr. Porter.

And a petition from Abbeville county signed by Hon. W. W. Bradley, Auditor Sondley, Sheriff Lyon, and many of the other good citizens of that community.

Also, many personal letters from different parties—some traveling salesmen.

Solicitor Julius E. Boggs writes that "any recommendation by me is unnecessary." Therefore, he does not say yea or nay.

Hon. P. A. Bonham writes as follows: "It has always been my opinion that the popularity of Tom Drake, whom Emmerson killed, said Drake being a most worthy and reliable citizen, brought upon Emmerson a much more severe penalty than he should have suffered. The case hinged upon a very close point of law, as you probably shall learn in this petition, and had it not been charged decidedly against Emmerson, might have turned the case. In any event, although Emmerson had placed himself in the wrong, it was a wrong which he, by long practice and by familiarity, with the circumstances surrounding, had reason to believe was to some extent countenanced. I am sure that he did not anticipate that he should have to kill Mr. Drake when he went to his home, and it was only his dire extremity which compelled him to do so. I believe that it is certainly the sentiment of quite a number of the citizens of Anderson county that Emmerson has suffered enough for his offense."

As I stated in the beginning, there has much been said and much been written on both sides, and in addition to what has been said and what has been written, I gave a hearing to K. P. Smith, Esq., who presented the petition in opposition to any clemency in this matter. I also gave a hearing to the other side. I have a great many strong friends on both sides, and I admit that it was a very close case. However, this man has now suffered since February, 1907—six years and a half; and, in addition to the strong petitions which have been presented and other facts heretofore set out in these reasons, it is represented to me, upon the very highest authority, that the only living sister of this defendant is now confined in a sanitarium from a nervous breakdown, caused by the long and continued confinement of this defendant and the continual nursing of his infant girl child, and I am assured by those in charge that with the

release, or temporary release of this man, she will be partially restored to her health, and at least her mind will be restored. If this were an ordinary case, where a maudlin sentiment might be exercised to secure executive clemency, I would ignore it; but the reputation of the Geer family in South Carolina is such to all of those who know it that none would for a moment hesitate that this good woman was feigning in order to secure the release of her brother. On the contrary, their honor and their integrity is such that she would look all mankind in the face and stand square to the four winds of the earth, and take her humiliation with that patience and forbearance which have characterized the true womanhood of South Carolina for all the generations of the past. Her life is worth more to her and her children and is worth more to the citizenship and the motherhood of this country than the incarceration of her brother is worth to the State. These representations have been made by men of the strongest character and by women of the best reputation and purest motive, and I cannot longer forbear to release this man and put his condition such that he will no longer be within sight of those who may dislike to see him—nor can he in his idle moments rove within the distances of their homes, which might cause them mutterings and discomforts; but I have sent him beyond the confines of this State. If by this act I can restore this good woman to her usual health and give her back to the arms of her husband and to the loving embraces of her children, I will feel that I have performed a good act. Let criticism be what it may, she is more to the motherhood and womanhood of this country than the imprisonment of one man is to the State; and I am satisfied that his banishment is but little above his imprisonment, yet she can feel that he can breathe the free air of the human, and claim his home among those who have and who love human liberty, and he can take his little girl child and live away from those who may have ill feelings towards him, and yet be where this good woman can go and visit them, and I think his punishment has been sufficient, and the punishment which is now being brought upon this good woman, and this defenseless little child, would not longer be asked for by even the family of the deceased, who are known to me to be good Christian people.

For these reasons, the defendant has been granted a parole, upon the condition that he leave the State of South Carolina within twenty-four hours and never return.

Parole dated August 15, 1913.



ETTERS, WILLIAM (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Richland county, of rape, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Mrs. Mabel Etters, the wife of this defendant, states that she took two of her sisters, Alzeta and Lutie, the younger child, Lutie, being between six and seven years of age; that the said children remained with her and her husband, and that Mr. Etters was always kind and good to the two children; that her father was continuously endeavoring to get possession of the child, Lutie, and that one reason that he was so anxious to obtain the child was that Mrs. Etters' mother's own sister, Miss Mollie Mills, had agreed to marry Mr. Rogers if he would get possession of this child, and that Mr. Rogers began to make as much trouble as he could among the children, and that the termination of his efforts to cause trouble in the family was this trumped-up charge of rape against her husband, which she, Mrs. Etters, states to be absolutely false, and in proof of her statements that her father was endeavoring to get this child under the agreement with Miss Mills to marry, the following letter was produced:

"Dear Mabel: It grieves me to hear of your trouble, but be good and brave and do the best you can, and I will always be your friend and will help you if you need me, all I can. I hope to be keeping house again before very long. If I take Lutie home then your Aunt Mollie is willing to be mine, and help me take care of her. I would keep her in school all the time the school runs and they run ten months the year here. I think it would be good to take her here to finish her education. I can make plenty here to keep her and Mollie all right. Write and tell me how you are and all about it. I am as ever, lovingly,

Your Pa,

(Signed) J. M. ROGERS,

518 Charlton St. W., Savannah."

She further states that she and her husband, the petitioner, both worked in the cotton mill, and that the books of the said mills show that on the date of this alleged crime, February 21 and 22, 1911, that both she and her husband were out of the mill and that she was at home and that this child was there with her, except what time the child was at school, and that she knows that Mr. Etters did not commit this assault upon her little sister, to whom Etters had acted towards kindly and had been a father to since the death of her mother. That after this trial and the conviction of her hus-



band, William Etters, her father, took the younger girl, Lutie, with him and has married her own aunt, Mollie, the party mentioned in the letter above referred to, and that they now live together, and that the child Lutie is working in the Olympia Mills.

Mrs. McManus, the sister referred to in Mrs. Etters' statement as Alzeta, was present in the Governor's office at the time of making of this statement by Mrs. Etters, and she corroborates the same in so far as she and her sister living with Mr. Etters and they being well treated by him, and as to the fact that her father has married her aunt, Mollie, and that Luties is now living with them and working in the mill.

In view of this letter and the statements here made by the two sisters of the little girl upon whom it is charged this assault was made, and the letter which is here submitted, written by the father of this child, and the fact that he did go on and marry his sister-in-law, it does seem to me that the inference drawn by these girls is correct and that this entire matter was a trumped-up charge against this man Etters for the sole purpose of taking this child away and getting her in his possession in order that he could marry his sister-in-law, and that this child could be used by her as a house servant and also as a mill operative—in other words, as a domestic servant for her uses and purposes; and, I am forced to the conclusion that the jurors who tried this case must have believed the conditions as they are here stated, otherwise they would have let this party been more severely punished, for if he was guilty he should have been electrocuted, and if he was not guilty he should have been turned loose. Certainly eight years would have been no punishment had he been guilty of ravishing a child of such tender years, and why this kind of a verdict was reached I am unable, under the circumstances, to state.

However, in addition to this, a petition is presented from the county of Spartanburg, where Will Etters lived for years, and states the facts in connection with other matter, and asks that Etters be pardoned. This petition is signed by more than one hundred of the citizens of the city of Spartanburg and community, including the names of Mayor O. L. Johnson, Representative C. C. Wyche, present Mayor J. F. Floyd, and other prominent citizens of Spartanburg and operatives of the mills where Etters worked.

Another petition was presented asking that he be paroled, signed by about one hundred and thirty-five of the operatives of Richland Mill, situated in the city of Columbia.

Also, another petition, requesting that he be pardoned, was presented, signed by Magistrate J. T. Easterling, Chief Constable E. L. Kibler, A. F. Spigner, P. H. Lesesne, Sam W. Mims, J. M. Lawhon, Jr., Chas. Bateman, W. B. Lowrance, T. C. Williams, H. A. Taylor and four hundred and nine of the other citizens of the mill villages and city of Columbia.

And still another petition, signed by ninety-eight of the citizens of the mill villages of the city of Columbia.

Also, a letter was received from the prosecutor, and the father of the girl, Jno. M. Rogers, in which he states: "I do not object, as it is no pleasure to me to have him suffer. Neither is it any gain to me in any way. It would be a great pleasure to his wife, and mother, and maybe to his little baby boy to have him with them again."

And the following certificate from the Superintendent, Captain of the Guards and Sergeant of the Penitentiary:

"Columbia, S. C., November 11, 1913.

Governor C. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: Will Etters was sent here to Penitentiary to serve sentence of eight years for assault with intent to ravish. He has been a well-behaved prisoner and obeyed all the rules well since here.

Yours truly,

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt.;  
W. H. SONDELEY, Capt. of Guards;  
F. M. MOBLEY, Sergt. of Guards."

Upon the statements herein set out, and the strong and numerous signed petitions, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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EVINS, LEWIS (colored): Convicted at the January, 1912, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the Lexington Reformatory (Penitentiary).

Petition was presented, signed by a large number of the best people of Woodruff, S. C., where this boy was born and reared, asking that he be given another showing, as they knew him to be a good boy before this offense, and that he was led astray by older boys.

In addition to this, it was shown that his old father and mother were in need of his services.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 25, 1913.

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FANT, W. F. (white): Convicted before the Mayor of Anderson, S. C., of violating the dispensary law—two cases, on July 10 and April 28, 1913—and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 or serve thirty days upon the public works in one case, and a fine of \$100 or thirty days in the other case, \$50 of the sentence being suspended during good behavior.

Hon. J. Mack King, Supervisor of Anderson county, made the following recommendation in this case: "I heartily recommend the parole or pardon in this case. (Signed) J. Mack King."

It seems that this defendant paid \$50 of the fine imposed upon him, the remainder (\$50) being suspended during good behavior, of the sentence imposed on April 28, 1913. He was again taken up for having in his possession some liquor, and for this offense was fined \$50.

In view of the recommendation by the County Supervisor, and the fact that the city of Anderson already has received \$50 for the first offense committed by the defendant, he was granted a parole, during good behavior; and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentences above mentioned. Parole dated July 22, 1913.

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FARR, HUTSON, *alias* HUTSON WILLIAMS (colored): Convicted at the June, 1904, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Mr. R. T. Jaynes, of Walhalla, S. C., on September 26, 1911. The Board of Pardons, after considering the case, made the following report on April 11, 1912:

"Columbia, S. C., April 11, 1912.

His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: Hutson Farr, *alias* Hutson Williams, Greenville county, murder, life imprisonment, June, 1904.

On account of the very full report from Court Stenographer Long, and the favorable recommendation for pardon by Solicitor



Julius T. Boggs, we recommend a parole after June 1, 1912, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. T. SUMMERSETT, Secy."

I did not feel, at that time, that the defendant had been sufficiently punished for the crime he committed; therefore, did not act upon the case.

The defendant having served more than a year and a half since the recommendation made by the Board of Pardons, I now feel that he should be extended clemency, and have, therefore, granted him a parole, during good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

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FAUST, JOHN H. (white): Convicted March 22, 1913, by Magistrate James H. Fowles, Columbia, S. C., on the charge of breach of peace and disorderly conduct, and sentenced to serve thirty days on the chain gang, without the alternative of a fine.

Petition in this case was presented by A. F. Spigner, Esq., in behalf of the defendant, Mr. Spigner being accompanied to the Governor's office by the prosecutor, D. T. S. Gates, and by Solicitor W. H. Cobb. It seems this young man is of good reputation and habits, but on the occasion mentioned drank too much whiskey, and while under its influence used some very bad language and was guilty of some very improper behavior, but was in his own home, and that Mr. Gates went there to endeavor to quiet him, and that as soon as the young man sobered up he apologized for his conduct and was properly repentant. All sides requested that he be not humiliated by being imprisoned. Solicitor Cobb strongly joined in the request, saying the young man had been a member of his Sunday school class and he had never known him to be guilty of reprehensible conduct before.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled on March 25, 1913, upon the condition that should he be thereafter convicted of a similar offense that he also serve this sentence.

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FELDER, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the November, 1909, term of Court for Bamberg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Col. Greateon E. Bamberg, of Bamberg, S. C.

The petitioners state in their petition that: "We believe that the majesty of the law has been vindicated in this case and the punishment has been ample." The petition is signed by Magistrate Free, Clerk of Court Free, Treasurer Jennings, County Supervisor E. C. Bruce, Sheriff Ray, Representative Miley, Judge of Probate Harmon, Representative Hunter, Senator J. B. Black, Col. J. D. Copeland, and other prominent citizens of Bamberg, including bank cashiers, merchants, lawyers, doctors, farmers.

Upon the showing made in behalf of the defendant, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 31, 1913.

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FERGUSON, RICHARDSON (colored): Convicted before Judge of Probate G. Duncan Bellinger, of Richland county, of fighting, and sentenced to serve in the Reformatory for Colored Boys until he shall become twenty-one years of age.

The following communication was submitted from Hon. G. Duncan Bellinger, Judge of Probate:

"State of South Carolina, County of Richland.

*Ex parte*, Richard Ferguson—Petition.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor and Chairman of Board of Trustees, State Colored Reformatory:

In regard to the above-mentioned case:

I am willing to recommend leniency therein for the following reasons:

1. Notwithstanding the boy plead guilty to the charge and had been put on probation previously by me for fighting, from a statement made to me after passing sentence I found that the night before some boys had thrown rocks at the defendant, and believing that the boy, who he had the difficulty with, was one of the same parties who rocked him the night before, the defendant approached him and asked him whether or not he was one of the boys who rocked him; some words were passed, and in the heat of passion this boy cut the other boy.

2. This boy being of tender years, I believe that his stay in the reformatory has been sufficient to punish him and cause him to realize just what his acts mean.

3. The parents of this boy have always borne a good reputation, and I believe that they will now sufficiently discipline him so as to prevent a recurrence of such acts as he has previously committed.

4. I believe that justice has been carried out in this case and if retained in the reformatory longer an injustice will be done in this case.

I therefore recommend such leniency as may be proper in the premises. (Signed) G. DUNCAN BELLINGER,

Columbia, S. C., April 23, 1913.

Judge of Probate."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, April 28, 1913.

FISHER, SAM B. (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Anderson county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by A. H. Dagnall, Esq., of Anderson, S. C., accompanied by a letter in which he states: "Ten of the jurymen have signed the petition. Of the two remaining ones who didn't sign it, S. N. Richardson, of Fork Township, is dead, and the other one refused to sign, stating that he would not sign a petition for anyone, as he did not believe in pardons or paroles."

The petition signed by the jurors is as follows:

"We, the undersigned members of the petit jury who convicted Sam B. Fisher of manslaughter, believing that the said Sam B. Fisher has been already sufficiently punished for his crime, there being extenuating circumstances in his favor, do respectfully petition your Excellency, the Governor of South Carolina, to pardon or parole the said Sam B. Fisher.

(Signed) S. L. ESKEW, Foreman;  
S. W. WILLIFIELD,  
M. E. ALLEN,  
C. A. HARPER,  
PAUL SEARS,  
A. P. MOESBY,  
J. H. SIMPSON,  
W. N. HARBIN,  
R. W. HENDERSON,  
J. F. MARTIN."

In addition, another petition was presented, signed by an unusually large number of the good citizens of Anderson county, in which they state: "It was an admitted fact at the trial that his provocation



was great and his life had been threatened, and we therefore think his punishment has already been sufficient to meet the demands of justice."

The Board of Pardons, on October 3, 1913, in reporting on this case, stated: "Hon. A. H. Dagnall was heard for the petitioner. We find that the prisoner has served about sixteen months of his three years sentence. About 400 of the citizens in the community in which the homicide occurred have signed the petition, together with ten of the jury who tried the case. Under the showing made, we recommend a parole, during good behavior, after the prisoner has served two years."

Taking into consideration the petitions presented, and the recommendation of the Board of Pardons—that the prisoner be paroled after two years' service—he having already served about a year and a half, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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FLOYD, PEARL (colored): Convicted at the Winter, 1912, term of Court for Union county, of larceny of live stock (two cases), and sentenced to fifteen months and nine months, respectively, upon the public works of Union county.

The following petition was presented by Hon. J. F. Walker, member of the House of Representatives from Union county:

"Union, S. C., April 10, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Sir: We, the undersigned petitioners, do hereby request your Excellency to grant a pardon or parole to one Pearl Floyd, who plead guilty on the 19th day of February, A. D. 1912, at the Winter term of the Court of General Sessions for the county of Union, said State, to an indictment charging him with the offense of 'larceny of live stock,' and sentenced to fifteen months and nine months, respectively, upon the public works of Union county.

The said Pearl Floyd has now served all of the above sentence with the exception of about eight months, and we believe he has been sufficiently punished for the crime committed.

The said Pearl Floyd is a hard-working negro and we believe that if a parole is granted by your Excellency the ends of justice will

have been met, and the said Pearl Floyd will lead a better life hereafter.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) J. G. LONG, Sr.,  
C. H. PEAK,  
F. H. GARNER,  
JOSEPH SANDERS, Co. Com.;  
J. HAY FANT, Sheriff;  
R. C. WILLIAMS, Master;  
T. C. DUNCAN,

Mayor of City of Union;

JAS. G. LONG, Jr.,  
J. F. WALKER, Jr.,

Member of House of Representatives and Atty. at Law;

J. A. WILLIAMS,  
W. A. ROBINSON, County Com.;  
J. M. GREER,  
R. P. MORGAN,

Prest. Citizens National Bank, Union, S. C.;

M. T. TRACY,  
L. G. YOUNG,  
T. J. VINSON,  
W. W. JOHNSON,  
W. G. PUCKETT, Magistrate;  
T. J. BETENBAUGH, Co. Aud."

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, April 25, 1913.

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FOSTER, JULIUS (colored): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Greenwood county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

In passing through the hosiery mill I found this boy there at work; he seemed to be in bad health, and in my opinion deserved some consideration. After looking into his case, and in view of the fact that he has worked so long in the hosiery mill I decided to give him another showing in life.

In addition to personal investigation of this case, I submit here two letters received from him, which are self-explanatory:

"State Penitentiary, Columbia, S. C., March 20, 1913.

Hon. C. L. Blease, Chief Executive of S. C."

Hon. Sir: The following circumstance will explain to you why I am forced to ask you to consider my case, waiving the customary form of a petition. Sometime back I wrote Lawyer E. L. Richardson, of Greenwood, S. C., asking what he thought could be done for me in the way of getting my sentence commuted or securing me a parole.

In reply he stated that as he was familiar with the circumstances under which my offense took place that he thought he could make a showing that would commend it to some kind of consideration, but would require \$50 as a fee for getting it in shape and presenting it.

This sum, which represented the savings of over seven years, a penny at a time, which was earned by my doing work over my task, I sent him. I received a letter or two a year ago regarding the matter, but have heard nothing since.

I understand that through some domestic trouble he decided to leave Greenwood. However, he has done nothing for me, and showed no inclination to return my money. This circumstance, connected with the fact that all my folks have died since I have been in prison, will, I hope, lead you to feel justified in taking up my case regardless of the absence of a petition.

I was tried and convicted of murder in Greenwood county, November, 1902, and sentenced by Judge Buchanan to life imprisonment. As the conditions under which the crime took place are perfectly familiar to those who are acquainted with the conduct and failings of a lot of drunken negroes at a frolic and a crap game, I shall not attempt to explain them other than to say that it is the same old story, "too much whiskey and a gun."

In asking you to extend me some kind of consideration, let me say that I fully realize the gravity of my error and feel that it is but right and just that I should be punished. But I also feel that as I have been severely punished, and as society can gain nothing by forcing me to remain in prison, and as I firmly declare that I can and will live in obedience to the law, that it is but right and just that I should be given another chance.

Earnestly hoping that God will, in His mysterious way, lead you to feel that the old negro should have another chance, I am,  
Hon. Sir,

Yours truly,

J. FOSTER (Col.)."



"Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina.

Hon. Sir: I had been in prison eight years when you came through the hosiery mill in 1911. You were kind enough to hear my story, and said you would do something for me. I had almost lost all hope of ever being free again, and having one more chance to make good. But your kind words put new life in my body and new hope in my heart. I had no one to help me, and very little money to give to my lawyer, Mr. E. G. Drayton, of Greenwood, who defended me, when I was convicted at Greenwood, S. C., November, 1902, for the killing of the negro Louis White. I have been saving every penny I could earn so I could get a lawyer to get up a petition for a pardon or parole for me. I have \$50 that I made by doing overwork. My task is thirty-five dozen a day, for each dozen over thirty-five I received one-half of a cent. It took me seven years to save that \$50. When you said you would do something for me after hearing my story I wrote to Mr. E. L. Richardson, of Greenwood, who assisted Mr. Drayton at my trial. I told him in my letter that I had \$50 and if he would take my case I would work for him until I had paid him his full fee. I received a letter from Mr. Richardson, stating that he would take up my case on receipt of the \$50. Mr. R. L. Vinson sent the \$50 at once. Mr. Vinson received a letter acknowledging receipt of money in May or June, 1911. I have heard from him only twice since then, the first time he was in Oklahoma and expected to be home in February, 1912. The last time he wrote from Greenwood, S. C., telling me I could expect good news soon. That was eight months ago. I have given up all hopes of Mr. Richardson doing anything for me. It is impossible for me to earn enough money in here to employ some other lawyer. I have no one to help me to gain my freedom. I write this to your Excellency, knowing that if you don't take pity on me and show me mercy I will have to remain a prisoner for the rest of my life. There is no one who can know what I have suffered during the ten years I have spent in here but God and myself. I pray that your Excellency will have mercy on a friendless darkey and do something for your servant, JULIUS FOSTER."

Upon this, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 29, 1913.

FOWLER, GEORGE, JR. (white): Convicted at the May, 1912, term of Court for Union county, of larceny, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works.

Petition was presented by Col. James G. Long, Jr., of Union, S. C., signed by the foreman and ten other members of the jury who tried the case; by the Master, County Commissioners, Clerk Board of County Commissioners, County Auditor, County Superintendent of Education, ex-Sheriff James G. Long, Magistrate W. G. Puckett, Col. James G. Long, Jr., and a large number of the other good citizens of Union county.

The defendant having served more than half of the sentence imposed, in view of the very strong petition presented, a parole was granted to him, during good behavior, June 12, 1913.

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FRANKLIN, GUS (colored): Convicted at the March, 1912, term of Court for Greenwood county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented, signed by Magistrates B. L. McDowell and W. O. Goree, and other good citizens of Greenwood county. A majority of the Board of Pardons also recommended that a parole be granted the defendant.

The defendant having served about fifteen months of a two years sentence, and in view of the petition presented, and the endorsement of a majority of the Board of Pardons, a parole, during good behavior, was granted to him on June 17, 1913.

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FREEMAN, EUCHAS (colored): Convicted at the September, 1911, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented, accompanied by the following communication from Messrs. Sanders & DePass, of Spartanburg, S. C.:

"Spartanburg, S. C., June 17, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina,  
Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: William Freeman, the father of Euchas Freeman, has asked us to write you in reference to his son, who is now in the Penitentiary under a life sentence.

We were employed to represent this boy. After investigating the matter we came to the conclusion that he ought not to be convicted of murder in the first degree. We thought there was a chance to secure a verdict of guilty of manslaughter, but rather than run the risk of a verdict of murder in the first degree we persuaded Euchas and his father to accept a verdict of 'guilty with recommendation to mercy.' We did this, hoping that at some later day a pardon or commutation might be secured for him.

The facts, as we recall them, are about as follows:

Euchas and the boy that he killed seem to have been pretty good friends. From the facts that came to us it seems that Euchas was drinking very heavily that night and while he and his friend were together he shot his friend without any known cause. He had no occasion to entertain any malice against him, and our conclusion was that he was so drunk that he really did not know what he was doing. This, as you know, in the eye of the law, would not be sufficient to have exonerated him, but it does tend to eliminate the idea of malice. If under these facts you can see your way clear to pardon the boy, or to commute his sentence to a reasonable length of time, we shall appreciate it. Yours respectfully,

(Signed) SANDERS & DePASS."

The petition presented states: "We believe from the facts that the verdict should certainly have been nothing more than manslaughter; and, whereas, said Euchas Freeman has served a period of two years; and, whereas, prior to that time he had been a negro of good reputation, believing that he has served sufficiently for the offense committed, we do humbly petition your Excellency to grant him a parole, during good behavior, or a full and free pardon, as your Excellency may see fit."

This petition is signed by Harrison Ferguson, R. M. Floyd, Rev. E. D. Bullock, Devereaux Turner, W. A. Dillingham, and a large number of the other citizens of Spartanburg county.

A separate petition was presented, signed by about 160 of the best negroes in Spartanburg, including many negro ministers.

Upon the petitions presented, and the letter above quoted from Messrs. Sanders & DePass, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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FREEMAN, WILLIAM (colored): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Charleston county, of burglary and larceny, and



sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Charleston county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented in which it is stated: "Willie Freeman was convicted on a charge of burglary, it being alleged that he entered the room of a negro woman and stole a pair of shoes \* \* \*." This petition is signed by W. S. Hall, W. G. Spires, M. S. Moore, T. H. Smith, W. O. Trescott, Wm. J. Bresnihan and others.

Another petition was presented in which it is stated: "Some doubt existed as to whether or not he was guilty of the crime charged, and we do hereby petition that executive clemency be extended." This petition is signed by A. Byrd, Rev. G. A. Kraft, of St. Mary's Church; K. B. Hazard, W. G. Cook, J. A. Seigling, C. H. Hesse and others.

Upon the petitions presented, and the further fact that this defendant has already served about twenty-one months for the larceny of a pair of shoes from a negro woman, a parole has this day been granted him, during good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

FULLER, HORTON (colored): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Abbeville county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Abbeville county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented, signed by six of the jurors who tried the case, in which they state: "Fuller is a negro boy, and was only eighteen years old at the time he was tried. Fuller's plea in the case was self-defense, and there were a good many witnesses in the case who testified that Fuller was excusable for his act. Considering all of the circumstances of the case, we believe that he has been punished enough, and therefore that he should be pardoned at this time."

In addition to the petition presented, the following certificate was submitted:

"This is to certify that we have examined Horton Fuller and find he has a reducible rupture on the right side. Very respect.,

(Signed) C. C. GAMBRELL, M. D.,  
G. A. NEUFFER, M. D."

In view of the petition submitted from the jurors, as above mentioned, and the certificate from the doctors who have made an

examination of the defendant, he has this day been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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GADSDEN, JOSH (colored): Convicted at October, 1904, term of General Sessions Court for Georgetown county, Judge Charles G. Dantzler presiding, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This negro was convicted upon circumstantial evidence, in Georgetown, in 1904, of having broken into the house of a negro and stolen \$5 in paper money, one suit of clothes worth \$5, and some other little stuff reputed to be worth altogether about \$5. For this he was sentenced to the Penitentiary for the balance of his natural life. He has been a good and faithful prisoner, having served nearly ten years for stealing this trifling amount. He now has Bright's disease, and is sick quite a good deal of his time and unable to do very much labor, and, not receiving the necessary food for this disease in his present state of confinement, will live but a short while.

Under these circumstances, and he having served already nearly ten years for this small amount of property, he is paroled, during good behavior.

His case was brought to my attention by his faithful services around the State House grounds, where he has been working for some months, and I have had frequent occasion to observe his unfailing obedience and faithfulness. His physical condition is also apparent. He states to me that he has an aged mother, but no money, and is not able to employ a lawyer or to get anyone whomsoever to assist him.

This is one of the many cases in which it gives me pleasure to have the privilege to extend mercy.

Parole dated October 4, 1913.

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GARLINGTON, JOHN Y. (white): Convicted at the January, 1910, term of Court for Richland county, of breach of trust, and sentenced to three years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

I herewith submit the entire record, petitions, etc., presented, as my reasons for granting to the defendant a parole upon the following conditions; but, to print the entire record here would be entirely too cumbersome, and would also be quite an expense; therefore, for these reasons it is not done. The entire record, however, is on file

in the Governor's office, and anyone who desires to see it is at perfect liberty to do so.

The petitions are signed by the very best citizens of the State of South Carolina, and they are not confined to any one section of the State. I have also received letters from all over the State, many of them coming from ladies.

The health of the defendant's father was one thing which helped to secure him his release—the father being one of the State's most gallant Confederate veterans, having both in war and peace served it with distinguished ability and gallantry. He has now passed to the Great Beyond, and if South Carolina, through her Chief Executive, could make his last days upon earth a little more pleasant or give to his mind, in its passing days, a little more peace, it would be but little reward for his services to her and her people.

As stated, the petition is signed by a great many citizens, including county officials, distinguished ministers, lawyers, doctors, merchants, farmers, cotton mill people, and every other class and profession; also newspaper editors; and I am satisfied that anyone who would take the trouble to sit down and go over the petitions, letters and other documents submitted in the case would readily say that I was justified in granting the parole.

A few of the names on the petitions are: Hon. W. G. Childs, John J. Earle, Sheriff Coleman, Supervisor Owings, M. H. Mobley, Dr. L. A. Griffith, Hon. J. T. Miller, and many of the other leading citizens of Columbia. Every county officer of the county of Laurens, the Rev. Mr. Rankin, Hon. N. B. Dial, Col. Jno. W. Ferguson, Dr. Hughes, Dr. Dial, Hon. J. D. Watts, and I think everybody in Laurens. Hon. Albert E. Hill, of Spartanburg.

A petition was also submitted, signed by nine of the jurors who tried the case, in which they ask for pardon. I am informed that the others were not seen.

As I have stated, there is entirely too much of it to attempt to publish it all, and this is but a poor synopsis.

Upon the very strong showing made in behalf of the defendant, he was granted a parole upon the following conditions:

"And by these presents do parole the said John Y. Garlington, during good behavior; and upon the further condition that he do not leave the State of South Carolina to remain at any one time for a longer period than five (5) days, except upon the written permis-



sion of the Governor of the State; and, upon the further condition that he do not visit any bawdyhouses within or without the State."

Parole dated February 4, 1913.

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GARNER, BUEL (white): Convicted before Probate Judge G. Duncan Bellinger, at Columbia, S. C., January 6th, 1913, of larceny of a bicycle, and sentenced to confinement in the South Carolina Industrial School at Florence, S. C., until he became of the age of twenty-one years.

The petition was presented by the boy's father, who asked for him. The Probate Judge states that the boy was charged before him with larceny of a bicycle; that he put him on probation, leaving him in charge of his father, on December 21st, 1912; that thereafter, the boy's father requested that the boy be put in the Reformatory, which was done on January 6th, 1913. The father now requests that the boy be given another opportunity, and turned over to him. I know the father of this boy; he is a man worthy of trust and confidence, and I am satisfied that if the boy does not behave, he will return him to the Reformatory.

For these reasons, I have granted the boy a parole, during good behavior. Parole dated December 16, 1913.

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GASKINS, SAM (colored): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Williamsburg county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition, affidavits, statements of the Judge and Solicitor all show that this was clearly a case of accidental killing. This negro being engaged to a negro girl, called to see her, and in fooling with a pistol, it went off and killed her. It seems to have been a very sad accident; however, after a second thought, possibly it was for the good of humanity, for had they married, no doubt they would have brought forth more negroes to the future detriment of the State. Affidavits as to the good character of the defendant, and that it was purely an accident, are submitted from Mrs. M. A. Singletary and W. W. Singletary; also affidavit from V. G. Arnette, in which he states that he took the testimony as Magistrate, and from all the testimony submitted, he is satisfied that it was clearly an accident.

From the testimony and the records presented, I am satisfied that the negro did not intend to kill his sweetheart, and that if he had been a white man, he would not have been convicted.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he ever be convicted again of carrying a concealed weapon, he shall be committed to serve the sentence above mentioned.

Parole dated March 20, 1913.

GATES, C. W. (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Richland county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county.

The Board of Pardons, under date of May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"67. Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition C. W. Gates, Richland county, assault and battery with intent to kill, sentenced six months, January 16, 1913.

Judge Riley, who conducted the preliminary, and Coroner Scott, who knows all the circumstances surrounding the case, was heard for the petitioner. This is a very large petition, signed by the neighbors of the prisoner in the mill village surrounding the mills of Columbia. We find eight of the trial jury have signed the petition asking for executive clemency. Under the showing made, we recommend the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
Pardon Board."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 3, 1913.

GEORGE, J. L. (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 or to serve one year upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented in this case is signed by ex-Mayor Floyd, Representative Wyche, C. P. Sims, Esq., and many other citizens of Spartanburg, in which they state that this defendant was convicted along with some others and an agreement was had with the Solicitor, which agreement was not carried out by the Solicitor in this defendant's case, but was in the others. Petition states: "We distinctly want it understood that we do not in any wise mean to reflect upon the Court, but we are informed that the defendant fought the said J. C. Otts with all his might and said some hard things against the said Otts, and that the said Otts had attempted to punish the defendant in this way for his opposition to the said Otts.

In consideration of the showing made, and the strong petition presented, the defendant is paroled, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he hereafter be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be arrested and required to serve the sentence imposed in this case. Parole dated May 17, 1913.

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GIBBS, MAXIE (colored): Convicted at the October, 1910, term of Court for Marion county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Marion county or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Maxie Gibbs, Marion; assault and battery with intent to kill; five years; October 4, 1910.

This petition is signed by Clerk of Court D. F. Miles, Senator Mullins, Representative Quinn, Treasurer Montgomery, ex-Comptroller General Jas. Norton *et al.* It also bears favorable endorsement of Judge Sease who tried the case. On this showing, we recommend a parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Board of Pardons."

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, above quoted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.



GILLIS, D. A. (colored): Convicted at the June, 1905, term of Court for Barnwell county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to serve thirty years in the State Penitentiary, or upon the public works of Barnwell county.

The following petition was submitted in behalf of this defendant:

"State of South Carolina, County of Barnwell.

In the Court of General Sessions—Indictment for Murder.

The State *v.* D. A. Gillis.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina:

The petition of your petitioners respectfully shows to your Excellency:

That the defendant in the above stated cause was indicted for murder at the March term of Court of General Sessions for Barnwell county, in 1905, and was tried at said term of Court before his Honor, D. A. Townsend, of Union, S. C., Solicitor James E. Davis prosecuting; that the defendant, being without counsel, the undersigned was appointed by the Court to defend him. The testimony against the defendant was entirely circumstantial and the jury at this term of Court found him guilty of manslaughter. His attorney then stated to the Court that he thought the defendant should have a new trial. The Court inquired of the Solicitor what he had to say as to a new trial, and the Solicitor replied, 'I leave it to your Honor.' His Honor remarked: 'I think the defendant should have a new trial as there was absolutely nothing proven against him except a suspicion.'

At the following June term of Court for Barnwell county, the defendant was put upon trial a second time under the same indictment, his Honor, Judge James Aldrich, of Aiken, presiding, with Mr. Solicitor Davis prosecuting. The testimony for the State was reproduced almost verbatim as at the first trial, the jury again convicting the defendant of manslaughter, and his Honor, in passing sentence upon the defendant, gave him a very drastic lecture, concluding as follows: 'Manslaughter may be a very low degree and border very nearly on to justifiable homicide, or it may be a very high degree and border very nearly on to murder,—hence the Legislature in its wisdom has given the trial Judge very large latitude in passing sentence, not less than two years nor more than thirty years. Some years ago I tried a case in this courthouse in which there had been two or three mistrials, and the defendant was convicted of manslaughter. I gave him thirty years. However, in that case there was positive testimony—several eyewitnesses, and there could

be no doubt. Whereas, in this case the evidence is circumstantial, and there is doubt about it. The sentence of the Court is that you, D. A. Gillis, be confined in the State Penitentiary at hard labor for a period of thirty years.'

The facts in this case as developed by the testimony are briefly stated as follows: All of the parties were negroes. The defendant and Nellie Golphin, the woman whom he was charged with killing, lived about two miles apart—Nellie on her own land and Gillis on rented place. Gillis had also rented Nellie Golphin's lands for the year 1904 and the killing occurred about the end of that year. It was testified at the trial that the defendant and the deceased and her family were on very friendly terms, so much so that on Saturday and Sunday previous to the death of Nellie Golphin, the defendant took her in his buggy to church, and on Monday morning thereafter two of her grown daughters went over to where Gillis lived to gather peas for him and took a message from their mother to Gillis, requesting him to come over that day and have a settlement with her for the rent for the year. Gillis told them at the time that he could not go because he was busy, but would go over another day. However, later in the day he went there, as he claims, for fodder to feed his stock and when he drove up to her house, found her lying in the side yard dead or in a dying condition. He went into the house, which was open, and got a buggy robe and spread over her and immediately returned to his home and notified her daughters. It was charged that at the place the dead woman was lying the ground had the appearance of people having fought, and there was one lone track alleged to have been there that showed the full print of a shoe. This track was claimed to have been covered up and preserved and the measurement taken from it and it was claimed by the State that the measurement corresponded with Gillis' track; it was also claimed by the State that on one side of the track it showed a patch on the shoe, and that a like patch appeared on Gillis' shoe; but, the man who made this measurement denied having noticed any appearance of a patch on the shoe from the track that was found near the dead body.

We do not think that the evidence was sufficient to have convicted the defendant, there having been great room for reasonable doubt, and the action of his Honor, Judge Townsend, in so promptly setting aside the first verdict, appears to the undersigned and indicated that his Honor took the same view; and as to the sentence passed upon the defendant, I would say that his Honor, Judge Aldrich, had been



ill of health. We do not believe he intended to give the defendant the limit of the law, because he referred to a case in which he said there was no doubt as to the guilt of the defendant, and that there were no mitigating circumstances connected with it; whereas, in this case, there was great room for reasonable doubt, and the testimony was circumstantial throughout, together with the fact that no motive for such a crime was proved. The relations between these parties were perfectly friendly, and there was no testimony at all of any rupture or disagreement between them from the time Gillis left the home of the deceased on Sunday after taking her to church and the death of the deceased.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) G. M. GREENE,  
Petitioner's Attorney."

"I know personally the defendant, Gillis, and knew the deceased ever since she was a child; I heard both trials mentioned in the foregoing petition, and according to my recollection, the petition substantially gives the facts. Have never thought that the evidence warranted a conviction. Judge Townsend told me that if Mr. Greene had not made a motion for a new trial, he would have given Gillis the minimum sentence—2 years. Believe that this is a case which warrants executive clemency, and hope that Gillis will get it, either in the shape of a pardon or parole.

(Signed) GEO. H. BATES,  
Senator, Barnwell Co."

July 23, 1912.

"I heard the remarks of Judge Townsend on the motion for a new trial and they are correctly set forth in this petition. I also heard the remarkable statement of Judge Aldrich, and it is also correctly stated. After he had concluded his remarks, I could not understand why he sentenced defendant for such a long term, as the sentence does not correspond with what Judge Aldrich said. From the evidence I heard at the trial, I think a verdict of not guilty should have been rendered, as there was only a bare suspicion that the defendant, Gillis, had any connection with the homicide, and I cheerfully join in the petition and ask that a pardon be granted.

(Signed) C. ARTHUR BEST."

"I heard the evidence in this case and thought the evidence wholly insufficient to convict the defendant.

(Signed) W. GILMORE SIMS, C. C."



"I have no hesitation in recommending this man's pardon. I regard his conviction as entirely unsupported by any evidence. The circumstances narrated to establish circumstantial evidence wholly failed in such purpose. He has been unjustly convicted and should be pardoned. (Signed) CHAS. CARROLL SIMS."

"I join in the prayer of the petition, as I think defendant has been sufficiently punished. (Signed) B. F. PEEPLES, Foreman."

The defendant having served more than eight years imprisonment, in view of the above quoted petition and statements, a parole has been granted to him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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GOINS, CHARLIE (white): Convicted at the June, 1913, term of Court for Williamsburg county, of larceny of live stock, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by the brother of the defendant, in which it is stated: "We, the undersigned petitioners, ask that you exercise executive clemency in behalf of Charlie Goins, which we think has served a sufficient length of time to satisfy for the crime for which he was convicted, and we shall ever pray." This petition is signed by Sheriff Graham, Clerk of Court Britton, County Commissioner Hammet, County Treasurer Cook, County Auditor Montgomery, Judge of Probate Brockinton, Magistrate S. M. Bradshaw, Mayor L. P. Kinder, Representative Robt. J. Kirk, and many of the other good citizens of the county of Williamsburg.

Upon the petition presented, and in view of the fact that the defendant has served half of the sentence imposed upon him, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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GOLDEN, A. (white): Convicted at the July, 1913, term of Court for Beaufort county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to "pay a fine of \$200, or that he be committed to the public works of Beaufort county for six months, or that he be confined in the Penitentiary for six months. Let this sentence be suspended during defendant's good behavior, upon his paying into the hands of the Clerk of this Court \$100. Let this sentence be suspended for sixty (60) days."

The petition of this defendant states that "I am not really guilty of said offense, and the conviction was without sufficient evidence to justify it, as the only evidence I was convicted upon is the testimony of a worthless negro hack driver, gambler and vagrant. I am a hard-working man, conducting a shoemaker's shop, repairing shoes only, have a wife and six small children to support, and the imposition of above sentence will render my family destitute with no one to support them."

Mr. Dave Mittle, in a communication of August 22d, states: "As he (speaking of Golden) is really a poor man and has six small children and a wife to support, I don't see how he would be able to pay \$100. Shortly after the raid, Mr. J. R. Cooler told me that he would not make any case against him. I had never heard of A. Golden selling or storing liquor until after his raid."

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the full sentence above mentioned. Parole dated August 26, 1913.

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GOLDEN, BOB (colored): Convicted at March, 1911, term of General Sessions Court for Newberry county, Judge R. C. Watts presiding, of manslaughter, and sentenced to serve upon the public works three years and six months.

Petition was presented with the following letter from the trial Judge, Hon. R. C. Watts, now Associate Justice of the Supreme Court:

"Columbia, S. C., May 20, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: In the case of Bob Golden, convicted in March, 1911, before me, at Newberry, of manslaughter, and sentenced to serve three years and six months, after reviewing the testimony and refreshing my mind upon the case, I recommend that Golden be paroled, for the following reasons:

The testimony showed that the difficulty started in play brought on by the deceased, Cain Henderson, and that Cain Henderson was drunk and during the play got mad and began cursing and the defendant cursed Cain and the result was somewhat in the nature of a mutual combat, brought on, however, by Cain Henderson in his drunken condition. The defendant, I understand, has already served

two years and two months of his sentence, and I am informed that he has made a good prisoner and has been a trusty during practically his entire service. Under all the circumstances, I am of the opinion that his good conduct, in view of the testimony, entitles him to a parole at this time.

Respectfully,

(Signed) R. C. WATTS,  
Presiding Judge."

Also, the following in a letter from Solicitor Cooper, who prosecuted the case:

"I have so much confidence in the fairness as well as in the judgment of Judge Watts, that I am constrained to concur in the views expressed in his letter. I think this whole trouble arose over too much Christmas whiskey, and that probably in this regard, the deceased was more at fault than the defendant. I think that the testimony technically makes out a case of murder, but that substantial justice is reached in a conviction of manslaughter, and in view of Golden's good conduct, I shall not oppose clemency in his behalf, but as above stated, concur in the views expressed by Judge Watts."

Upon this showing, defendant was paroled, May 23, 1913, during good behavior.

\* GOLDSMITH, W. R. (colored): Convicted at the January, 1911, term of Court for Greenville county, of forgery, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works, and to pay a fine of \$1.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"12.

Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* W. R. Goldsmith; Greenville; forgery; 3 years and \$1 fine; January 18, 1911.

We respectfully refer your Excellency to our endorsement of May 1, 1913, and in view of the endorsement of Judge Gage and Solicitor Bonham, we recommend that the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Board of Pardons."



Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape, or form, and that he do not "shoot craps." Parole dated July 8, 1913.

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GORE, GEORGE (colored): Convicted at the Fall, 1905, term of Court for Union county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to twelve years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. J. F. Walker, member of the House of Representatives from Union county, and is signed, among many others, by W. T. Beaty, F. C. Williams, J. F. Cook, J. R. Whitmire, W. G. Puckett, Col. James G. Long, Jr., Sheriff J. G. Long, Representative Walker, in which it is stated: "It is understood that the said George Gore is in very bad health and now confined in the hospital at the said Penitentiary, and for this reason the pardon is requested.

The following certificate from the Prison Physician was submitted along with the petition:

"Columbia, S. C., March 5, 1913.

State of South Carolina, Richland County.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that George Gore, now confined in S. C. Penitentiary, has Bright's disease. Said George Gore will never get well while confined; on account of his condition and his excellent behavior since I have been here, I would be glad to see him free.

(Signed) R. T. JENNINGS, M. D. P. P."

"Dear Governor: This is to state that George Gore, now in the Penitentiary, has been one of the best kind of prisoners, and I would be glad to see him pardoned. Very respectfully,

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt."

The defendant having served about seven and a half years of a twelve-year sentence; made a good prisoner, and now being in bad health, as testified to by the Prison Physician, and in view of strong petition presented, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 6, 1913.

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GRAHAM, ARTHUR (colored): Convicted at the May, 1907, term of Court for Greenville county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to

fifteen years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, or upon the public works of Greenville county.

Petition was presented by Hon. John D. Bivens, of Ridgeville, S. C., on January 15, 1912, and sets forth the fact that the defendant was convicted of manslaughter (for killing another negro). The defendant has served seven years imprisonment, and it seems that the deceased, and a number of his friends, went to the home of this negro and assaulted him. The petition states that the petitioner has at all times been an obedient and respectful darkey.

The petition is signed by a number of the most reputable citizens of the home of the darkey, including several of the county officials, and many other good, true citizens.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

GREEN, E. D. (white): Convicted at the June, 1897, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented shows that this man was convicted and sentenced to the State Penitentiary by Judge Buchanan, at the June, 1897, term of Court, for murder, for which he, John L. Paige, and Fannie Carson were also convicted.

It seems that at the time of the murder a great deal of excitement was created throughout the county of Spartanburg, and the three persons mentioned were convicted, but, for some reason, they were not given the extreme penalty of the law. Sometime ago, his Excellency, Governor Ansel, pardoned the woman in the case—the head-devil and she-devil of the transaction, who, in my opinion, if she was guilty, should have been put to death, and if she was not guilty, she should not have been convicted, and when Governor Ansel saw fit to pardon her, it seems to me that the three were so closely linked together, that he should have faced public opinion and pardoned the other two as a matter of right and justice.

Now comes one thousand two hundred and fifteen good, substantial people of the county of Spartanburg,—two hundred and thirty-five of whom are ladies,—and including ministers, preachers, doctors, lawyers, merchants, farmers, and by their petitions ask that in view of the long term of imprisonment which the defendant has already served, and in view of the fact that Fannie Carson was pardoned sometime ago by former Governor Ansel, ask for the pardon

of this man. Also, the following statement from Judge T. S. Sease, who was Solicitor who prosecuted the case:

"The petitioner herein, E. D. Green, was tried along with his codefendants, Mrs. Fannie Carson and John L. Paige, at the October term of Court of General Sessions for Spartanburg county, during the year 1895. The defendants, Mrs. Fannie Carson and John L. Paige, were convicted of murder, with recommendation to the mercy of the Court. The petitioner, E. D. Green, was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged on the 28th day of December, 1895. From said verdict and sentence the petitioner, E. D. Green, appealed to the Supreme Court of South Carolina, and as is shown in the case of *The State v. E. D. Green*, 48 S. C., 136, the appeal was sustained and a new trial granted.

Upon assuming the office of Solicitor in 1897, this was one of the first cases of importance that I tried at the Spartanburg term of Court of General Sessions. Upon reaching Spartanburg, I found the sentiment of the people to be such that it was impossible to convict the petitioner, E. D. Green, of a more serious crime than his codefendants had been convicted of, to wit: murder, with recommendation to the mercy of the Court. Sentiment, it seemed, had crystallized in his favor to the effect that he should receive the same verdict as his codefendants, and although I and counsel associated with me in the case, made a hard fight, the jury found him guilty of murder, with a recommendation to the mercy of the Court, and he was sentenced to life imprisonment by the late Judge Buchanan.

I understand that before the petitioner had gotten into this trouble, he was a young man of good reputation, a school teacher by profession. He has been in prison for nearly eighteen years.

Mrs. Fannie Carson was pardoned some years ago by ex-Governor Ansel. It will be observed that I was not the Solicitor when Mrs. Carson and Paige were tried.

The youth of the petitioner at the time of the commission of the crime, the fact that Mrs. Fannie Carson has been pardoned by a former Governor, the good reputation of the petitioner before the crime was committed, the long term of imprisonment which exceeds the usual life of a prisoner, and the strong petition herein presented, may appeal to you in the exercise of executive clemency.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) T. S. SEASE,  
Solicitor Who Prosecuted the Case."



The following names are taken from the petition:

D. B. Wheeler, juror; C. O. Layton, juror; R. C. Crow, juror; R. C. Gossett, juror; J. J. Tinsley, foreman of the jury states that the jury took into consideration the fact that Green should receive same punishment as Mrs. Carson and Paige; J. B. Lee, ex-Mayor of the city of Spartanburg; J. B. Ramsey, ex-Alderman, Ward 2, and ex-Mayor *pro tem.*, Spartanburg, S. C.; O. T. Gallman, Alderman, Ward 4, city of Spartanburg; W. H. Gentry, ex-Health Officer and Sanitary Inspector, Spartanburg; D. M. Miles, Supervisor; N. Leonard Bennett, Clerk of Court, Spartanburg county; T. R. Trimmer, Register of Mesne Conveyance; E. W. Miller, Deputy Clerk of Court of Spartanburg county; J. E. Vernon, Deputy Sheriff Spartanburg county, and ex-Chief of Police; T. C. Perrin, Court Stenographer; J. W. Martin, Clerk County Commissioners; John S. Turner, Coroner Spartanburg county; B. R. Pollard, Coroner of Spartanburg county, who held the inquest over the dead body of Ban Carson; J. M. Bowden, Magistrate; T. B. Moore, Magistrate; J. W. Beckwell, Constable; Frank Metcalf, Constable for Magistrate Bowden.

The following are officers in Polk county, N. C., where E. D. Green was raised: A. L. Hill, Sheriff; J. B. Foster, County Superintendent; J. P. Arledge, Clerk Superior Court; F. M. Burgess, Register of Deeds.

The following are prominent farmers in the county of Spartanburg: A. P. Suddith, John Lanford, Fairmont, S. C.; J. D. O'Shields, Geo. Settle, J. P. Chapman, A. B. Blackwell, J. B. Ezell, W. M. Burnett, W. L. Tinsley, E. H. Lanford, F. E. Suddith, A. J. Stone, Eddie Waters, W. E. Bishop, J. R. Tinsley, Milton Tinsley, E. D. Blackwell, R. H. Bailey, W. F. Traile, C. F. Murph, Joe, McCracken, B. P. Tinsley, J. A. Floyd, J. L. Bishop, Noah Horton, and many others, as will appear by reference to the petition herein.

Other prominent names in this petition are: R. E. Miller, Detective, Spartanburg, S. C.; Col. B. G. Landrum, B. T. Earle, Stock Broker; Dr. H. H. Edwards, I. C. Blackwood, Attorney at Law; C. P. Wofford, Attorney at Law; C. P. Sims, Attorney at Law; J. B. Gwyn, Attorney at Law; S. Becker, Merchant; Harry Price, Merchant; Harrison Ferguson, R. L. Hicks, Merchant; Tillman Bunch, D. M. Lane, Business Man; Gray B. Hampton, Merchant, Landrum, S. C.; E. L. Peace, Merchant; Rev. A. T. Jones, Minister; A. W. Nock, Merchant; A. H. Lancaster, Sawmilling; R. M. Foster, Rev. J. F. Taylor, Minister; J. E. Collins.

In view of this exceedingly strong petition, and the further fact that this defendant, as well as John L. Paige, has served the entire length of service in the Penitentiary as a laborer in the celebrated, and now notorious death-trap—the tuberculosis incubator—commonly called the “Hosiery Mill,” a parole was granted to him on the 26th day of April, 1913, during good behavior; and, upon the further condition, that he do not use any intoxicating beverages except upon the advice and prescription of a physician.

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GREEN, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the March, 1909, term of Court for Oconee county, of burglary and larceny, in two cases, and sentenced to thirteen months and five years, respectively, upon the public works of said county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons make the following recommendation in this case:

“21.

Columbia, S. C., July 4, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Henry Green, Oconee county, convicted of burglary and larceny, two cases; sentenced thirteen months and five years, respectively.

The prosecuting witness heads the petition for executive clemency. Judge Shipp, who tried the case, recommends the same. Solicitor Bonham does not remember the case. The prisoner has served more than four years. The county officials, Hons. C. R. I. Burns, J. W. Shelor, J. W. Holleman, E. L. Herndon, Rept. M. R. McDonald and others join in the petition. We recommend parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons.”

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form, and that he do not “shoot craps.” Parole dated July 8, 1913.

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GREEN, JIMMIE (colored): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Orangeburg county, of assault and battery with

intent to kill, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Orangeburg county or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented in which it is stated: "This was a case of a drunken fight, at a negro hot supper, and you readily understand, as a general rule, one negro is about as much to blame as another. We think that he has served long enough for the offense." The petition is signed by County Treasurer A. D. Fair, Sheriff A. M. Salley, County Supervisor N. N. Hayden, N. W. Wertz, and other citizens of the county of Orangeburg.

Mr. W. O. Tatum, of Cope, S. C., in writing about this case, states: "He has been serving on that sentence, I think, long enough for the offense, taking into consideration that it was committed at a negro 'hot supper,' and no doubt that others were to blame, as well as him. I was the prosecutor in the case, as it was one of my negroes that he committed the offense against. I simply write this letter in the interest of justice, as I have no personal interest in the case." This letter is dated June 30, 1913.

In view of the petition presented, and the circumstances surrounding the case, the defendant having served half of the sentence imposed, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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GREEN, TOM (colored): Convicted at the September, 1911, term of Court for Darlington county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works.

Petition was presented by the Honorable Josh. P. Kervin, and Mr. B. L. Outlaw, of Darlington, S. C., in which it is stated that the defendant was convicted of manslaughter in 1911, and sentenced to three years upon the public works for killing another negro, who, the petitioners state, was attacking him with a pistol, and who was known to be of bad reputation, while the defendant has always borne a good reputation as a man of peaceful and quiet disposition and habits. The petition is signed by George H. Edwards, Esq., P. A. Bethea, A. F. Dufft, J. E. Phillips, J. A. McLeod, County Auditor; Clerk of Court, Treasurer, Court Stenographer, Sheriff Register, and many of the other most respectable and prominent white people of Darlington county.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, May 12, 1913.



GREGORY, JAMES (white) : Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Newberry county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works.

Petition was presented by Mr. A. J. Holt, of Whitmire, S. C., signed by Mr. Holt, Mayor J. C. Duckett, Dr. Moore, and about one hundred and fifty of the citizens of Whitmire.

Upon this petition, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 3, 1913.

GREY, ELLA : Convicted before Magistrate T. W. Bruce, of Greenville county, on July 15, 1913, of petit larceny, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$20, or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Greenville county.

The following petition was submitted :

"Greenville, S. C., August 25, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of S. C., Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir : On the 15th day of July, 1913, Will Grey and Ella Grey were tried by me for petit larceny. The facts showed that Will Grey killed a neighbor's chickens with a stick and directed his wife, Ella Grey, to take the chickens to the house. She did so, carrying them under her clothing, and had them cooked.

There was no doubt in my mind of the guilt of the husband and also of the wife ; and, upon the trial, I found them both guilty and sentenced them to a fine of \$20 or thirty days on the gang. They had no money and the husband took the days. The wife has three little children, one of them nursing ; and I decided to suspend the sentence as to her.

Subsequently, I have learned that a Magistrate has no power to suspend sentence, and I write to ask for a pardon for Ella Grey. I think the majesty of the law will be sufficiently vindicated by punishing the husband, and I hope you will exercise clemency toward the wife. I have gotten several of the neighbors to endorse this letter recommending the pardon which I have suggested.

Yours truly,

(Signed) T. W. BRUCE,  
Magistrate, O'Neal Township, Greenville County, S. C. ;  
B. F. REESE,  
W. U. JAMES,

T. M. GRACE,  
T. W. BURNS,  
H. MOORE,  
T. B. BRANT."

Upon the petition presented, and the fact that this woman has three small children, she was granted a parole, during good behavior, August 27, 1913.

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GRIFFIN, JAMES, *alias* JIM GRIFFIN (colored): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Fairfield county, of larceny, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. Glenn W. Ragsdale, of Winnsboro, S. C., in which it is stated "that it was proved at the trial by the testimony of credible witnesses that the two negroes had been engaged in gambling with dice, and while the defendant admitted that he did have the money which he was accused of stealing, he testified that he won it from the prosecutor and that he did not steal it, and the undersigned, who know both of the negroes well, verily believe that the statement of the defendant was true; that such statement was strongly corroborated by facts which were not brought out at the trial, owing to the absence of witnesses, and the undersigned feel certain that if the facts could have been fully presented, that the defendant would not, and could not have been convicted, except on the charge of gambling, for which he was not indicted, and of which the prosecutor was equally guilty. That the defendant has now served about nine months of his sentence; that this petition is signed by those only who know something of the facts of this case and feel that grave injustice has been done to the defendant." This petition is signed by Magistrate Jno. D. Blair, H. D. Hamiter, W. M. Aiken, J. D. Martin, and other good citizens of Fairfield county.

The defendant having served about nine months of the sentence imposed, and in view of the petition presented, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, June 24, 1913.

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GROOMS, MORGAN (white): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Orangeburg county, of grand larceny, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to eight months imprisonment upon the public works of Orangeburg county.

Petition in this case was presented by Hon. Thos. F. Brantley, of Orangeburg, S. C.

The petition is signed by five of the jurors who tried the case, including the foreman,—the only ones who were seen, the others living in remote sections of the county and could not be found.

The following letter, from the prosecutors, was also filed with the petition:

“Holly Hill, S. C., October 29, 1913.

Messrs. Brantley & Zeigler, Orangeburg, S. C.

Dear Sirs: As you are aware of the fact that we were the prosecutors in the case against Morgan Grooms, and he was convicted and sentenced to a period of eight months and has served a period of five or six of his time, we have decided and think that the punishment he has already received is sufficient, we ask that you try and have Governor Cole. L. Blease to pardon him.

Very truly, (Signed) BENNETT BROS.”

Also, a letter from Magistrate Wiggins, in which he also joins in request for pardon.

The petition presented is signed by all of the residents and near residents of the town of Holly Hill, where the offense was committed.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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HALL, CHARLIE (white): Convicted at the September, 1910, term of Court for Anderson county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county.

Petition presented shows that the defendant has served more than half of his sentence, and has made a good prisoner. The petition is signed by the County Supervisor, B. J. Pearman; Clerk of Court James N. Pearman, Representative W. W. Scott, ex-Treasurer J. M. Payne, ex-Sheriff King, Clarence W. Beatty, Deputy Clerk of Court; J. S. Acker, Clerk County Board of Commissioners; Postmaster A. G. Pinkney, and a very large number of the other reputable citizens of Anderson and of the community where the offense was committed. The petition states that “We feel that the sentence imposed in this case was extreme, and that a sentence of two years would have been a very severe punishment for the offense committed.” He is, therefore, paroled on condition of good



behavior, and upon the further condition that he does not drink any intoxicating beverages, or use any drug or drugs, except under advice and prescription of a physician, as it seems that his trouble was brought on by the use of these two articles; and, I think this parole will be better for him than either the Keeley cure or the McKanna treatment. Parole dated April 22, 1913.

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HAMILTON, JAMES (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Clarendon county, of obtaining goods by false pretenses, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment upon the public works of Clarendon county.

Petition presented in this case is signed by John Gray, A. L. Dyson, W. E. Haley, P. B. Ridgeway, W. D. Dennis, J. M. Barwick, and other citizens of the county of Clarendon.

The defendant having served ten months of a twelve months sentence, and taking into consideration the petition presented, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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HAMMOND, MOSE (colored): Convicted at the January, 1911, term of Court for Richland county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county or in the State Penitentiary.

The following communication from Dr. J. E. Heise, a member of the County Board of Commissioners for Richland county, is self-explanatory:

"Columbia, S. C., April 11, 1913.

To His Excellency, Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor.

Dear Governor: We have a negro named Mose Hammond on the Richland county chain gang, convicted at the Spring term of Court, 1911, special Judge W. T. Aycock presiding. His sentence is five years at hard labor on the public works. He was convicted of manslaughter. His plea was self-defense. He killed a negro in a fight at a frolic at Leesburg, near Eastover, S. C., and has served on the gang as trusty, where he has proved himself a most excellent boy, being quick, intelligent and obedient; making himself well thought of by all who come in contact with him. On December 25, 1912, while feeding the camp mules one of them kicked and fractured his right thigh. We sent him to the hospital and had him cared for, but the wound being a compound fracture, and notwithstanding the good

care given him and paid for by the county, he is left a cripple for life, and is now in bed at the chain gang.

Now, Governor, owing to the facts of the case, and taking into consideration the good qualities of the boy, who is only twenty-six years of age, and his being anxious to go to his people at Eastover, S. C., they being willing to take care of him, we earnestly pray that you grant him a pardon or parole. You can communicate with me at this office.

Thanking you in advance, I beg to remain,

Your personal friend,

(Signed) J. E. HEISE."

Upon the above statement of facts, and Dr. Heise's recommendation, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, April 12, 1913.

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HARRISON, L. M. (white): Convicted at the October, 1910, term of Court for Cherokee county, of issuing check without funds and false pretenses, and injuring county jail and for attempting to escape (two cases), and sentenced to four years and one year, respectively, imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

I have a letter from Col. James T. Hornsby, in which he states that this is a young man, and like many other young men, happened to stray from the path of the just; that his crime was that he made a sight draft on his father for \$45; that it was sent to him and when it reached there, his father had gone to Alabama and did not receive it, so he was immediately arrested, tried and convicted. The following certificate from the Prison Physician was submitted:

"This is to certify that L. M. Harrison, convict from Cherokee county, S. C., is suffering of acute tuberculosis involving the right lung. I am sure that any longer confinement to the prison will prove fatal to him.

(Signed) F. W. P. BUTLER, M. D.,

Physician and Surgeon to S. C. Penitentiary."

Also the following certificate from the Superintendent and Captain of the Guards of the Penitentiary.

"This is to state that Dr. L. M. Harrison has been here two years and three months, and has made a good prisoner. He has obeyed the rules and worked well, and gives the authorities here no trouble whatever.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt."

"I have known L. M. Harrison for a little more than a year. During that time, he has made a good prisoner.

(Signed) W. H. SONDELEY, Capt. of Guards."

Also, a large petition was presented, signed by the Captain of the Guards of the Penitentiary, Clerk at the Penitentiary, all of the Board of Directors, and a very large number of the citizens of Cherokee county, including some of the jurors who tried the case. By Magistrate Bridgers, Probate Judge Kirby, Dr. W. L. Settlemeyer, and others.

In view of the fact that this party has served two years and six months of his sentence, for the measley sum of forty-five dollars, a parole was granted him, upon the condition that he leave the State of South Carolina within twenty-four hours and never return; should he ever return, he shall be arrested and recommitted to the Penitentiary to serve the remainder of above sentence. Parole dated April 22, 1913.

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HATCHELL, W. A. (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Darlington county, of obtaining goods by false pretenses, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment upon the public works of Darlington county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition of the defendant states:

"He was called up for trial upon an indictment for obtaining goods by false presense, to wit: for obtaining from defendant's brother-in-law, J. S. Anderson, the sum of \$216 for the sale of a piano, upon which the defendant owed a balance of \$90; that the defendant was not represented by counsel, but knowing that the facts in the case were true, and that he did owe a balance upon the said piano, which he had intended to pay at maturity, but had not been able to pay, and for which amount there was a lien upon the said piano, signed a plea admitting that he was technically guilty of the offense charged, and asked for the mercy of the Court; that your petitioner, in selling the said piano to his said brother-in-law, fully intended to pay the balance due, which constituted a lien thereon, and was guilty of no intentional wrong in the matter, but was simply unable to pay the said balance when it became due on account of the fact that he has suffered many misfortunes and is a poor man, entirely dependent upon his labor for the support of himself and family. That some of the friends and kindred of your petitioner have offered the prosecuting witness in this case to pay the balance



due by your petitioner, so as to release the said piano from the lien and to give a good title thereto to the said prosecuting witness, which seemed to be a perfectly fair and reasonable proposition, but the said prosecuting witness refused to accept the said offer and to withdrawn the prosecution. And your petitioner further shows that he is a poor man and has a wife and a child under the age of three years, who are entirely dependent upon the labor and the daily earnings of your petitioner for their support."

Another petition was presented, in which it is stated, that his wife, who is reported to be almost an invalid, and his child are absolutely dependent upon the labor and efforts of the said W. A. Hatchell for their support, and should not be deprived of his labor and assistance, which is their only means of support. This petition is signed by Mr. C. Alexander, W. A. Dowling, and one hundred and forty-four other good citizens of the county of Darlington.

The petitions were presented by the Hon. J. P. Kirven, and after carefully looking into the circumstances surrounding the case, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

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HEARD, LUDIE (colored): Convicted at September, 1910, term of General Sessions Court, Judge Ernest Gary presiding, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works of Greenville county.

Petition states that a police officer went into this man's house at night, without a warrant, and searched it, and that while in the search this man was struck by the officers and dragged into the street, and that in the melee some one cut the officer, but the party who did the cutting was not recognized by any of the officers; defendant, however, was convicted of the crime of assault and battery with intent to kill. Petition is signed by County Commissioner Bramlett, County Commissioner Newby, by Guards Springfield, Juell and Waldrop, by eight of the jurors who tried the case, asking that the defendant be released, by Dr. J. P. Carlisle; by J. R. Childress, Clerk of the County Board of Commissioners, and other citizens of the city and county of Greenville. In view of the fact that so many of the jurors who tried this man state that he has already suffered enough for the offense of which he was convicted, under the circumstances, and the signing of the petition by so many prominent citizens, he was paroled, during his good behavior. And I would

advise officers who want to search people's houses to have the proper papers before they go in. In my opinion, this officer was fortunate that he was not killed, for certainly he had no right in that house under the conditions set out in the petition.

Parole, during good behavior, dated December 31, 1913.

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HEMPHILL, LETHIA (colored): Convicted at the October, 1910, term of Court for Chester county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on October 3, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., October 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Lethia Hemphill; Chester; murder, with recommendation to mercy; life imprisonment; October, 1910.

The Hon. W. H. Newbold was heard in behalf of the petitioner, and a very strong case was made in her behalf. A copy of the evidence has been furnished this Board. We think that the certificate of the physician at the Penitentiary, that she is *non compos mentis*, backed up by Dr. Cox, of Chester, and there being a failure of proof of the *corpus delicti*, in our opinion, we think she is entitled to relief, and recommend a parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
D. H. MAGILL,  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
Board of Pardons."

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, above quoted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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HENDRICKS, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the October, 1900, term of Court for Pickens county, of burglary, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, made the following recommendation:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* John Hendricks; Pickens; burglary; life imprisonment; October 23, 1900.

Attorney Samuel B. Craig was heard in behalf of the petitioner. The prisoner was only sixteen years of age when convicted and has served about twelve and one-half years. The petition is a very strong one, and includes six of the jury, Magistrate Bramlet, Dr. Seawright, Supervisor Craig, Deputy U. S. Marshal Alexander, ex-Sheriff Jennings, ex-Treasurer Richards, Treasurer Stewart, Sheriff Roark, County Auditor Christopher, Clerk of Court Boggs, Coroner Hallman, Hons. J. E. Boggs, I. M. Mauldin, the chief prosecuting witness, and others.

Under this showing we recommend that the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 3, 1913.

HILLIARD, JOE (white): Convicted at the January, 1912, term of Court for Anderson county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to five years upon the public works of Anderson county.

The petition presented states: "We think he has been sufficiently punished." It is signed by the County Supervisor, Pearman, J. S. Acker, Magistrate Green, Sheriff W. B. King, Deputy Sheriff Martin, Leon L. Rice, Clarence W. Beatty, Dr. Witherspoon, R. E. Nicholson, Sheriff Joe M. H. Ashley, Auditor Jas. H. Craig, Treasurer C. W. McGee, John T. Bolt, J. S. Fowler, J. Neese Fant, Representatives J. W. Ashley and W. W. Scott, and between three and four hundred of the other citizens of Anderson county living in and around the Gluck Cotton Mill community, where the offense, for which he was convicted, was committed.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that if he be hereafter convicted of any criminal offense, that he shall be recommitted to serve the remainder of this sentence. Parole dated March 14, 1913.



HILLS, FRED. (colored): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Berkeley county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works.

Petition was presented by Mr. T. B. Miles, of Summerville, S. C. This was a case of one negro killing another.

The petition is signed by Mr. T. B. Miles, John Finucan, Jr., T. M. Finucan, T. B. Limehouse, M. H. Mobley, O. B. Limehouse, C. B. Miles, Thomas R. Moore, and other citizens of the neighborhood where the crime was committed.

Upon the petition presented, the defendant having served more than a year, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 24, 1913.

HOLLIS, JACKSON (colored): Convicted at the March, 1910, term of Court for Greenwood county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the State Reformatory for Colored Youths.

The petition in this case states that the defendant "was only ten years old when committed to the Reformatory, and we think the punishment already administered to him has been sufficient."

The petition is signed E. S. Giles, W. W. Arnold, A. C. Rauton, E. H. Tarrant, L. L. Henderson, Geo. K. Fellers, J. B. Ellis, and other prominent citizens of Greenwood county.

In view of the petition presented, the fact that the defendant was only ten years old when committed to the Reformatory, has served nearly three years, and the promise of his sister that she would send him to a brother in New York, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 24, 1913.

HOLMES, ROBERT (colored): Convicted at the Spring, 1905, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"78.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Robert Holmes, Greenville county, convicted of murder, sentenced life imprisonment, Spring term, 1905.

The trial Judge, Prince, recommends pardon. Solicitor Boggs

favors executive clemency. This petition is presented by W. J. Moore, Master of Greenwood county. It is signed by ten of the jury who tried the case. President and Cashier of the Loan and Exchange Bank, W. H. Palmer, Magistrate; A. McD. Singleton, W. G. Calhoun, Joel S. Aiken and other prominent citizens of the county. The prisoner has served eight years, and under this showing we recommend a parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

Pardon Board."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 1, 1913.

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HOLMES, WILL (colored): Convicted at the March, 1905, term of Court for Edgefield county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Edgefield county.

Petition was presented by the Hon. S. McGowan Simkins, of Edgefield, S. C., on May 17, 1911, accompanied by a letter, in which he states: "The facts attending the homicide were about as follows: The deceased, Howard Galloway, has escaped from the Georgia chain gang, having held up a guard at the point of the pistol. He fled to this county, locating in the neighborhood where the defendant lived; that the officers of the law got on his trail and from information received from Will Holmes, the petitioner, succeeded in capturing the negro. After serving his sentence, he returned to his old haunts and 'had it in' for Will for having reported on him; that on the day of the killing, deceased sent for Will Holmes to come to a certain house in the neighborhood and there the old grudge manifested itself; the deceased getting after petitioner for having reported on him, hot words followed, culminating in the deceased getting his gun and attempting to fire on the defendant; the latter was too quick for him and drew his pistol, fired, inflicting a mortal wound. That the deceased had previously threatened the life of the appellant."

Eight of the jurors who tried the case recommend that the defendant be pardoned. Petition, signed by numerous citizens of Edgefield county, and affidavits, corroborating the above statement were also

submitted. At the time of the presentation of the petition, I did not feel that the defendant had been sufficiently punished. He has now served more than eight years of his sentence, and taking into consideration the showing made, a parole was granted him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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HOOPER, AMOS (colored): Convicted at the January, 1909, term of Court for Richland county, of larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

I saw this negro at work in the yard at the Governor's Mansion; he could hardly talk; I immediately saw that he was suffering from some peculiar disease, and upon investigation, I found the following certificate from the Penitentiary Physician:

"Columbia, 7-10-1911.

This is to certify that Amos Hooper, convict from Richland county, S. C., came into Penitentiary suffering from secondary constitutional syphilis, consequently in feeble health. Have treated in hospital a good many times, when he improved to some extent. Is still in feeble health.

(Signed) F. W. P. BUTLER, M. D."

Upon this certificate, and from my personal knowledge of his condition, and in view of the further fact that he has served four years of a five-year sentence, a parole was granted the defendant, during good behavior, January 28, 1913.

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HORN, JOHN (white): Convicted at the October, 1912, term of Court for Greenwood county, of assault with intent to ravish, and sentenced to ten years and one month imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This boy was convicted of an assault upon a negro girl. I have heretofore stated that I did not believe that a white man would commit rape on a negro, and I certainly see no necessity for it, by which he runs a risk of being sentenced to the Penitentiary or possibly to the electric chair for possibly what he could usually get from prices ranging from 25 cents to \$1.

This boy is young; of very weak mind; I have seen him several times and talked to him personally.



It is further stated that his father has been an inmate of the asylum and that his mother is of weak mind.

The petition is signed by a large number of the people living in the county of Greenwood, who seem to have known this boy and his people for a long time.

On account of the condition of the boy's mind, and the unusually large number of signers to the petition asking for a parole, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 25, 1913.

HOWELL, J. A. (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Marlboro county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to sixty days imprisonment in the county jail or upon the public works of Marlboro county.

The following communication was received from Hon. Milton McLaurin, Judge of Probate for Marlboro county:

"Bennettsville, S. C., March 17, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: I am enclosing Dr. Kinney's certificate in regard to an old man in jail here by the name of Howell, for assault and battery on his son. He plead guilty. The Solicitor, I am informed, recommended that sentence be suspended pending his good behavior, but the presiding Judge, Gage, refused to do it. You will see from the certificate of the doctor that he is in very bad health and he seems to be advanced in years. The man who took out the warrant for him says he hopes that the old man can be released.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) MILTON McLAURIN,  
Judge of Probate."

"This is to certify that Mr. Howell, who is now serving a sentence in jail for assault and battery, is suffering from nervous indigestion.

(Signed) J. T. KINNEY, M. D.,  
Bennettsville, S. C., March 17, 1913. County Physician."

Upon the certificate of the physician as to the defendant's health, and in view of his advanced age, and the recommendation of Hon. Milton McLaurin, a parole was granted the defendant, upon the condition that should he ever be convicted again of any offense in the General Sessions Court of this State, he shall be required to serve the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated March 21, 1913.

BRADLEY, THOMAS, JR. (colored); HOWZE, JOHN (colored); HOWZE, ARTHUR (colored): Convicted at the July, 1912, term of Court for Chester county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced as follows:

Arthur Howze, five years imprisonment in the State Reformatory at Lexington.

John Howze and Thomas Bradley, Jr., two years each upon the public works of Chester county.

Petition was presented by Hon. W. H. Newbold, of Chester, accompanied by the following letter from Magistrate W. B. Crosby:

"As to the facts in the case, all three of the defendants and an older negro by the name of Thad McMullen were arrested and brought before me charged with entering Mr. R. H. Fudge's store; all acknowledged their guilt, were sent to Court by me; all three entered pleas of guilty and were sentenced. Thad McMullen was turned over to the prosecutor and has been at work for him ever since.

The facts are stated in the petition and paper; the boys are not as guilty as some others, and I do not believe that Mr. Fudge was without blame in the matter. No harm, and much good can come by giving these boys another chance; they were evidently led into the matter by older persons.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) W. B. CROSBY, Magistrate."

The petition presented is signed by Hon. P. L. Hardin, Senator from Chester county; W. J. Irwin and J. T. Perkins, editors of the Chester Reporter; John C. McAfee, County Commissioner; J. A. Hafner, City Treasurer, Chester; R. L. Douglas, County Attorney; R. O. Atkinson, member of the House of Representatives; Sam W. Klutts, editor of the Chester Lantern; Magistrate J. W. Wilks, Coroner J. Henry Gladden, Clerk of Court J. E. Cornwell, Sheriff D. E. Colvin, County Treasurer S. E. Wylie, Deputy Sheriff W. W. Bindeman, and by the PROSECUTOR, MR. R. H. FUDGE.

In view of the unusually strong petition presented, the defendants were granted paroles, during good behavior, May 31, 1913.

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HUFF, RICHARD (colored): Convicted at the May, 1907, term of Court for Laurens county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. H. S. Blackwell, of Laurens, signed by many citizens of Laurens county, including the wife of the man who was killed by Huff.

Judge R. C. Watts, who tried the case, made the following recommendation in this case:

"His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease:

Upon reading the affidavits of Messrs. Armstrong and knowing them as I do, I would recommend that the defendant be paroled during good behavior.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) R. C. WATTS,

September 30, 1913.

Trial Judge."

The Board of Pardons, on October 3d, reported upon the case as follows:

"Hon. H. S. Blackwell was heard in behalf of the petitioner. This is a good, strong petition; is joined in by the wife of the deceased, and Judge Watts, who tried the case, recommends same. We therefore recommend a parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

After the above quoted recommendation had been made by the Board of Pardons, the following letter from Solicitor Cooper to Mr. Blackwell was filed with the papers:

"Laurens, S. C., October 24, 1913.

Hon. H. S. Blackwell, Laurens, S. C.

Dear Sir: In the matter of the petition of Richard Huff, now serving a life sentence for murder, my recollection of the circumstances of this case is not very clear. As you know, the verdict was consented to and no testimony was taken. I have been unable to find the Coroner's report of the testimony. I am sure that at the time I regarded the verdict as a proper one, otherwise I would not have insisted upon it. Personally, I know nothing of any new or after-discovered evidence. I know that Mr. Sidney Armstrong and his son, Laurens A., are men of high character and I would believe any statement made by either. I do not care to oppose the petition in this case, but am perfectly willing to submit the matter



to the Governor and Board of Pardons for such action as may to them seem proper.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) R. A. COOPER,  
Solicitor."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

HUNTER, EARLE: Convicted at the Spring, 1909, term of Court for Pickens county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature (two cases), and sentenced to four years and three years (total of seven years) imprisonment upon the public works.

A petition was presented, signed by a large number of the citizens of Pickens county, including several of the jurors who tried the case, and some of the county officials, with the following endorsement from the Judge and Solicitor, and the following recommendation from the Board of Pardons:

"I think that the second sentence might properly be suspended during good behavior. In other words, defendant might reasonably be paroled, if the Governor is satisfied that the defendant has proved a good prisoner.

Respectfully,

(Signed) S. W. G. SHIPP,  
Presiding Judge."

October 25, 1912.

"This defendant was convicted for shooting at two officers who were attempting to arrest him. The evidence was sufficient and the conviction merited. The only circumstance which can address itself to his Excellency for clemency is, has the defendant suffered long enough? That is a matter for his Excellency's discretion, in which I shall not interfere.

(Signed) P. A. BONHAM,  
Solicitor, Tenth Circuit."

"Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Gov. of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Earle Hunter, Pickens county, two cases of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, sentenced three and four years, respectively, on the public works, Spring, 1909.

The petition is presented and urged by Hon. J. E. Boggs, ex-Solicitor, and is backed up by a large petition, including nine of the jury

and the favorable endorsement of Judge Shipp, who tried the case. We recommend a parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,  
(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
D. H. MAGILL,  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 6, 1913.

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HUNTSINGER, R. A. (white): Convicted before Magistrate E. A. Crawford, at Guthriesville, S. C., on August 28, 1913, of being drunk and disorderly in a public place and carrying unlawful pistol, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$20 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of York county.

Hon. Thos. F. McDow, former member of the House of Representatives from the county of York, in writing of this case, stated:

"Yorkville, S. C., November 6, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: Last summer five or six employees of the York Cotton Mills were arrested for being drunk and disorderly. Among the number was one R. A. Huntsinger, who has only one leg. All of them were tried before a Magistrate and were represented by me. The jury acquitted four or five of them and convicted Huntsinger and another man named Quinn. The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$10 upon Quinn, which he paid. The jury recommended Huntsinger to the 'extreme' mercy of the Court, but, notwithstanding their recommendation, the Magistrate imposed a fine of \$20. The offense charged was a very simple one, and while there was testimony which, if believed, would warrant the conviction on the charge of being disorderly, certainly he was no more disorderly than men in a higher walk of life are every day in the towns and cities of South Carolina, and for which they are never in any way molested.

I know that it is a very trivial matter to bother the Governor of South Carolina with, but this poor fellow has a hard way of making his living."

In another letter, dated November 10, 1913, Mr. McDow states:

"I will say, Governor, that I have no personal interest in this case so far as compensation is concerned, as I have made no charge against this man, and will make none, and I appeal to you simply

because I am of the opinion that the fine is excessive, and for the reason that I believe that you will be glad to lend this poor fellow a helping hand in this matter."

In view of the circumstances surrounding this case, and facts set forth by Mr. McDow, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he refrain from the use of alcoholic liquors or beverages, and that he do not again carry an unlawful weapon. Parole dated November 11, 1913.

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JACKSON, HARVEY (white): Convicted at the April, 1900, term of Court for Chesterfield county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented in this case is signed by the foreman, Mr. F. M. Welsh, and other members of the jury, in which they state:

"We, the undersigned jurors in the case of the State against Harvey Jackson, believe that the ends of justice have been met in the punishment that he has suffered and ask that he be paroled or pardoned."

In addition, personal letters were received from Mr. J. M. Carson, of Kershaw, S. C., Mr. F. M. Welsh, of Jefferson, S. C., the foreman of the jury, in which he says: "I feel that it is my duty to do what I can towards securing a pardon for Harvey Jackson; the evidence was purely circumstantial, and I doubt very much if murder was intended."

Also a letter from Mr. T. L. Ingram, of Cheraw, S. C., and a petition from Chesterfield county, signed by Treasurer W. A. Douglass, Magistrate Rodgers, ex-Coroner Woodward, Clerk of Court Mangum, Sheriff Douglass, Auditor Eddins, Doctors J. D. Ingram, J. F. Lawrence, Messrs. A. A. McManus, W. C. McManus, M. M. Johnson, Jno. D. Odom, and many other influential and prominent citizens of the county of Chesterfield.

Also, another petition was presented, signed by citizens of the county of Chesterfield and the county of Lancaster, including Senator T. J. Strait, Representatives Claude N. Sapp and J. Cope Massey, Mr. T. B. Clyburn, E. D. Blakeney, Dr. L. T. Gregory, Dr. J. E. Rutledge, Mr. W. U. Clyburn, Magistrate Caskey and others.

The presiding Judge, Hon. J. C. Klugh, and the Solicitor, Hon. J. Monroe Johnson, are both dead, therefore, the petition could not be referred to either of them.



Under the strong showing made, the petition signed by some of the jurors who tried the case, the many personal letters, including the letter from the foreman of the jury, Mr. Welsh, who is known to be a man of high character and good judgment, and the petition coming from the two counties, signed by the leading citizens thereof, and in view of the fact that the defendant has served nearly fourteen years, a parole has been granted to him, during good behavior, December 31, 1913.

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JACKSON, JOE, *alias* JOE THOMAS (colored): Convicted at the October, 1899, term of Court for Berkeley county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"18. Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Joe Jackson, *alias* Joe Thomas, Berkeley, murder, with recommendation to mercy, life imprisonment, October 11, 1899.

This petition is recommended by the officials of the Penitentiary. Judge Gage recommends pardon. The Solicitor does not remember the case. As he has served nearly fourteen years, under the above showing we respectfully recommend that the prisoner be granted a parole during good behavior. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form, and that he do not "shoot craps." Parole dated July 8, 1913.

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JACKSON, WILLIE (colored): Convicted at the March, 1910, term of Court for Edgefield county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Edgefield county or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on October 3, 1913, made the following recommendations in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., October 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Willie Jackson, Edgefield, burglary and larceny, five years, March 7, 1910.

Hon. P. B. Mason was heard in behalf of the petitioner. This petition comes to us with the signatures of a good many of the best people in the neighborhood of where the crime was committed, and is endorsed by Judge Watts and Solicitor Timmerman, and under this showing we recommend a parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

JAGGERS, WILLIAM (colored): Convicted at the July, 1900, term of Court for York county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in behalf of this defendant was presented by Messrs. Gaston and Hamilton, of Chester, S. C., on May 20, 1911. At that time I did not think the defendant had been sufficiently punished for the crime committed, therefore the petition was placed in suspense.

The petition states that this difficulty was brought on by the unfaithfulness of the deceased's wife; that the deceased, George Burris, colored, was unfriendly to the said William Jagers and had made threats to do him injury at various times before the homicide. That George Burris had falsely accused Jagers of being the cause of his wife's unfaithfulness and had threatened Jagers' life. That Jagers was then only about twenty years old. That Burris attacked Jagers in the public road and assaulted him by throwing rocks at him and striking him; that the killing was provoked by the deceased, and that in view of all of the circumstances and of the good conduct of the defendant, he is entitled to clemency, and his case is a deserving one.

The petition is signed by J. L. Nichols, Gen. Mgr., C. & N. W. Ry.; L. Davidson, Asst. G. M., C. & N. W. Ry.; M. G. Upchurch, Auditor, C. & N. W. Ry.; Z. V. Davidson, Chief Dispatcher, C. &

N. W. Ry.; Cashier Peoples Bank of Chester, Mr. W. A. Conkill; J. L. Glenn, and many other citizens of the city and county of Chester.

In view of the circumstances surrounding the case, the petition presented, and the further fact that the defendant has served more than thirteen years in the State Penitentiary, a parole has this day been granted him, during good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

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JAMES, W. C. (white): Convicted at the November, 1905, term of Court for Georgetown county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Walter Hazard, Esq., of Georgetown, S. C., on April 8, 1911, accompanied by a certificate from Dr. F. W. P. Butler, who was then the Penitentiary Physician, in which he stated that this defendant had to be taken out of the mill on account of failing health; that he is suffering from lung trouble and syphilis.

In 1910, Judge John S. Wilson, who was Solicitor that tried the case, in commenting on same, stated: "I think he should be pardoned. I therefore recommend his pardon."

At the time the petition was presented to me I did not think the defendant had suffered sufficiently for the crime he committed; therefore the petition was then refused.

The defendant having served more than two years since the presentation of the petition to me, and in view of the fact that he is in bad health, and that he has now served eight years of a ten-year sentence, and has made a good prisoner, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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JEFFCOAT, MACE (white): Convicted at the May, 1912, term of Court for Barnwell county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to one year imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Barnwell county.

Petition was presented by Mr. J. O. Patterson, Jr., and Mr. V. S. Owens, both of Barnwell, S. C. The petition is signed by nine of the jurors who tried the case, and a very large number of the citizens who are neighbors of this defendant. The Judge and Solicitor made the following recommendations:



"I recommend that the sentence of the within named defendant be commuted to such fine as will meet the ends of justice.

(Signed) R. L. GUNTER,  
Solicitor."

January 23, 1913.

"I recommend that the punishment be reduced from a prison sentence to a fine of \$500.

(Signed) CHAS. CARROLL SIMS,  
Special Judge Presiding."

January 23, 1913.

Upon this showing the defendant was paroled upon the condition that he pay a fine of \$100 to the Clerk of Court of Barnwell, and that he do not hereafter violate the dispensary law of this State; and, in case of his conviction again of selling whiskey or keeping and storing whiskey, he shall be immediately committed to the State Penitentiary to serve the sentence imposed by the presiding Judge in this case. Parole dated January 24, 1913.

JEFFERIES, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the October, 1909, term of Court for Cherokee county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Cherokee county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Mr. Carl M. Sarratt, of Gaffney, S. C., and is signed by one hundred and nineteen good, reputable white citizens of the town of Gaffney and county of Cherokee, in which it is stated that at the time this defendant was convicted he was only fourteen years of age; that he has served more than four years of a five-year sentence, and that they think he has been sufficiently punished for the crime committed.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

JETER, JACOB B. (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Lexington county, of resisting an officer and assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Lexington county or in the State Penitentiary.

This defendant was one of the first men pardoned by me after I became Governor. He went back to his home and there found very peculiar conditions. I am satisfied that he started out to try to be

a better man. After having been out for some time he made certain discoveries in regard to his family, and had a difficulty with the party upon whom this assault and battery was committed. I have examined thoroughly into the case, and am satisfied that Jeter is not as good a citizen as he should be, but I am further satisfied that had he not been pardoned by me he would not have been convicted in this case. Almost any man that would have committed the second offense would have been immediately acquitted by a jury—in fact, if he had killed the party all that would have been necessary would have been to go into the courthouse and state when and why he did so, and almost any twelve white men in South Carolina would have walked out with a verdict of not guilty as soon as they could have gone into the room and written it out. I cannot go more fully into the circumstances of the case; I wish I could state just what I know about the matter in full from beginning to end, and I know that every white man in South Carolina would say: "Governor, you did right." Understand, I am not praising Jeter for his past bad acts and his past reputation, but I think the worst of men should be given credit when they are trying to do better, and when they are imposed upon, I think they have as much right to defend their home from the assassins of character and happiness as any other man. I have allowed Jeter, however, to serve ten months of his two-year sentence, in order to endeavor to satisfy that clamor among some people who have been against him for his past acts.

Petition is now presented in which it is stated that he has suffered sufficiently. It is signed by some of the jurors who tried the case, and more than two hundred and fifty of the citizens who are acquainted with the facts.

Under the circumstances surrounding the case, and upon this petition being presented, the defendant is paroled, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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JOHN, BENJAMIN (white): Convicted at the July, 1913, term of Court for Kershaw county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by G. G. Alexander, Jr., Esq., of Camden, S. C.

In December, 1912, this man, along with George Simon, appeared in the Governor's office and exhibited letters of recommendation in

reference to the work which they were doing. I then gave to George Simon the following certificate:

"December 14, 1912.

To whom it may concern:

Having examined the letter of recommendation of Archdeacon George Simon by the Archbishop of Akaria; the letter by the Rev. Dr. Duff, president of the Bourdille Institute, of New York, and the letter by the firm of Richard & Co., bankers, of New York, I believe that Archdeacon Simon is engaged in a good work, and that he is entitled to the consideration of the Christian people.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) COLE. L. BLEASE,  
Governor."

The following letter was received from Mr. G. G. Alexander, Jr.:

"Camden, S. C., November 25, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of S. C., Columbia,  
S. C.

Sir: Am mailing you the petition in the case of the Rev. Benj. John. As you were out of the city last week it makes it impossible for me to see you personally about this matter. This petition is heartily endorsed by the citizens of this county. I am also informed that the officers at the State Penitentiary are in favor of this.

It will be appreciated if you will give this matter your careful consideration. If the petition is refused I will appreciate you mailing me the same, to be presented at a later date.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) G. G. ALEXANDER."

The following affidavit was filed from W. E. Hinson:

"State of South Carolina, County of Kershaw.

Before me personally appeared W. E. Hinson, of county aforesaid, who doth depose and say that the facts as stated in this petition were produced at this trial and that they are true to the best of his knowledge.

(Signed) W. E. HINSON.

Sworn to before me this 25th day of November, A. D. 1913.

(Signed) G. G. ALEXANDER, (L. S.)

Notary Public of S. C."

The following petition was presented:



"State of South Carolina, County of Kershaw.

*Ex parte* Rev. Benjamin John—Petition for Pardon.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina :

I. The petition of your petitioner respectfully shows that at the July term of Court in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirteen, your petitioner was convicted of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and was sentenced to life imprisonment at the State Penitentiary. Judge Frank B. Gary was presiding Judge, and Mr. W. H. Cobb was Solicitor.

II. That all of the evidence in this case was entirely circumstantial, and that such evidence as was given tended to show that a dispute had arisen between your petitioner and the deceased just prior to the killing, and that the homicide was one of self-defense, as maintained by your petitioner, and could not have been for purpose of robbery, such as the State attempted to prove. All of which will appear from the facts hereinafter produced.

III. That Florence Kershaw, chief witness for the State, testified as to a fight between the deceased and your petitioner, while they were upon the S. A. L. Railroad track, and just before the killing. That the two men went over the embankment, and that afterwards she heard one pistol shot.

IV. Your petitioner plead self-defense, and testified that he and the deceased, George Simons, were in Camden the night previous to the killing. That the next morning they started over to work Lugoff, a small station in Kershaw county; that upon reaching the S. A. L. depot they learned that the train would not stop at the station of Lugoff. Thereupon your petitioner refused to walk to said station, but after being persuaded by the deceased he consented to do so.

V. Testimony was brought out by defense that while on the railroad track, and on the way to Lugoff, the deceased and your petitioner were on good terms, as was proved by Mr. Sanders, witness for the State. But after crossing the Wateree River, and within sight of Lugoff, the deceased and your petitioner became involved in an argument, which resulted in the death of the deceased, George Simons. Upon being questioned as to the cause of the argument which resulted in a fight, your petitioner testified that the deceased, George Simon, after seeing what a small station Lugoff was, demanded that your petitioner give him money enough to accomplish his journey to the next station, then to return, meeting your peti-

tioner, Benjamin John, at Cheraw, S. C. Upon this request, your petitioner testified that he gave the deceased five or six dollars. That deceased was not satisfied with this amount, but demanded that your petitioner give him a larger amount. Upon refusal of this the deceased struck your petitioner in the face, while upon the S. A. L. Railroad track.

VI. That several licks were passed between the two, and that they went over the embankment, the deceased, George Simons, thereupon following your petitioner, Benjamin John, down the embankment, and again struck him in the face. They then fought with their fists for a few minutes. Your petitioner testified that he knocked the deceased, George Simons, down once, and while the deceased was getting up, he drew a pistol from his left-hand pocket, that they began scuffling for this pistol, and during the scuffle the pistol was discharged, inflicting a wound in the right arm of the deceased. Thereupon your petitioner secured the pistol and warned the deceased to stop fighting, but as soon as your petitioner secured the pistol, the deceased had a large knife drawn from his left coat pocket, and continued fighting and cutting at your petitioner.

VII. That your petitioner, Benjamin John, retreated backwards for a few yards, striking at the deceased with the pistol, repeatedly warning the deceased to stop, while deceased still advanced, cursing and cutting at your petitioner with the knife. During this fight, and while your petitioner was retreating and striking at the deceased, George Simons, the pistol was discharged the second time, inflicting the wound which caused the death of the deceased. That the fight referred to took place on the railroad track was brought out in the testimony of Florence Kershaw, principal witness for the State.

VIII. Evidence was also brought out and credentials produced to show that your petitioner, Benjamin John, first met the deceased, George Simons, in Meridian, Miss., and promised the deceased that he would pay his expenses to New York if deceased, George Simons, would assist your petitioner in his work of collecting money for various religious organizations in Turkey, which he professed to represent. Testimony was introduced, proving that it was in this capacity of a practically hired man that the deceased went around with him, and that the deceased had nothing to do with the money so collected, but that it was his duty to turn over this money to your petitioner, Benjamin John. Evidence was also introduced by Mayor Brasington, a witness for the State, that your petitioner, Benjamin John, seemed to be the leader of the two, and that it was



he who asked for permission to solicit funds in this city for a foreign orphanage.

IX. Evidence was introduced, and it was proved, that the place of the killing was the only clear and vacant field between the bounds of Camden and the station of Lugoff; also that very dense woods were passed, and that the killing happened at the nearest and only point to a dwelling. This tended to prove that if murder had been intended it would have been convenient to commit the same while in dense woods, and not at the only clear field, and near the only house along the journey.

X. Evidence was introduced by L. S. Jackson, a witness for the defense, that the defendant, with his partner, George Simons, had been in his place of business the morning of the killing, and while there the defendant had given the deceased 25 cents, with 5 cents of which the deceased bought a bottle of coca-cola, and put the remaining 20 cents in his pocket. This testimony was brought out by the defense to refute any argument to the effect that the deceased, George Simons, was in possession of any money other than that which your petitioner allowed him for expenses, and also proved that the latter was the leader of the two, and at all times had the money under his control, your petitioner having testified that the deceased, after joining him in Mississippi, was to have only expenses to New York.

XI. Upon discovery by the defense of certain changes having been made in the testimony as brought out at the Coroner's inquest, such changes being detrimental to the case of your petitioner, the Coroner was placed on the witness stand and questioned as to these changes. He failed to explain them, and could not state whether they had been made during said inquest or afterward. D. G. Gilliam, witness for the defense, who was present at the Coroner's inquest, testified that he had seen certain changes made in the testimony by the Coroner while the jury was out, and after it had been signed by the witnesses, when it was called to the Coroner's attention that certain things had been testified to, and had been omitted. But at that time the changes referred to above as detrimental to your petitioner had not been made, and must have been made sometime thereafter. The Coroner, as stated above, failed to testify anything to the contrary.

XII. When the body of the deceased, George Simons, was found it was discovered that he had \$5.45 on his person. This corroborates both the testimony of your petitioner and L. S. Jackson. The for-



mer, having testified that he gave the deceased between five and six dollars, and the latter having testified that of the 25 cents which was given deceased in his place of business, 5 cents was spent for coca-cola and the remaining 20 cents put in his pocket.

XIII. The pistol and knife used by deceased have never been found, and your petitioner testified that, seeing his former companion dead, that he took the knife, which was then lying on the ground, and that while crossing the river he threw the two into the water. He testified that he was ignorant of the laws of this country, and was trying to make his escape, and said, while upon the stand, that if he had known the laws of this country, which entitles the prisoner to a fair and impartial trial, that he could, without hesitancy, have given himself up to the proper authorities.

Therefore, we, the citizens of Kershaw county, believing that your petitioner received a very unfair and unjust verdict, and that the conviction was brought about through prejudice against such classes of people as your petitioner, do earnestly recommend that this petition be granted.

Wherefore, your petitioner prays an examination, hereto annexed, which are made a part of this petition, and will ever pray that this petition be granted.

Kershaw County, September 17, 1913.

(Signed) W. J. DUNN,  
W. R. HOUGH,  
DAVID WOLFE,  
R. T. GOODALE,  
W. GEISENHEIMER,\*  
W. L. RUSH, Juror;  
S. M. HOUGH,  
J. W. VAUGHN,  
R. A. McCASKILL, Jr.,  
J. McNINCH,  
R. R. PRICE,  
H. C. CAMPBELL,  
J. S. DUNN,  
McDOWELL LEWIS,  
W. L. JONES,  
J. L. CASSIDY,  
C. B. NETTLES,  
G. G. ALEXANDER,  
Attorney for Petitioner;

J. D. HUCKABEE,  
Deputy Sheriff;

JOSEPH SIMPSON,  
W. C. HORTON,  
T. R. SHIVER,  
W. A. LEZAINS (?),  
F. J. HOLLAND,  
W. A. CHRISTMAS,  
WM. BRANHAM,  
W. W. HUCKABEE,

Sheriff, K. C.;

J. E. CAUGBILL,  
A. M. CAMPBELL,  
F. E. GILLIS,  
BENTON SHEAM,  
W. M. K. WILSON,  
E. T. TRUESDILL,  
JOHN MICKLE,  
FRANK C. JONES,  
W. POPE DAVIS,  
J. D. CHRISTMAS,  
J. P. LEWIS,  
L. W. WATTS,  
SAM RAINES,  
B. A. BOWERS,  
M. BAXLEY,  
S. H. TWITTY,  
H. B. BRANHAM,  
W. E. HALL,  
JOE BRASWELL,  
L. J. WATTS,  
S. A. VINCENT,  
B. L. W. GAY,  
W. A. LINGH,  
W. C. ADEGE,  
JOE J. THOMPSON,  
J. L. HOLLAND,  
R. A. JACKSON,  
W. E. WEST,  
J. L. GRADICK,  
WALTER S. GASKINS,

W. E. HINSON,  
 J. B. ZEMP, Asst. P. M.;  
 CHAS. SHANNON, 3d,  
 I. WOLFE,  
 J. E. CHRISTMAS,  
 SAM McCASKINS,  
 I. C. BOONE,  
 A. C. WILLIAMSON,  
 J. H. RAFON,  
 R. T. JACKSON,  
 I. W. TRUESDALE,  
 I. J. JACKSON,  
 A. T. SIMPSON,  
 JAMES BRASWELL,  
 J. A. WEST,  
 J. T. WILLIAMS,  
 J. D. RHOCKMAN,  
 J. L. TRAPP,  
 C. B. THOMPSON,  
 W. R. OGBURN,  
 L. S. SPEARS,  
 G. W. SOWELL,  
 L. G. YOUNG,  
 S. L. GRADICK,  
 W. H. MACFEAT,  
 C. W. BILLINIX,  
 JNO. R. GOODALE,  
 JNO. S. HALSALL."

In view of the above showing, and the fact that this man is from a foreign country, the difficulty which he had was with his traveling companion, a brother Turk, and there were no eyewitnesses to the actual difficulty, and in view of the further fact that this man has a wife and three children living in the State of Hikire (?), Turkey, he has been granted a parole upon the condition that he leave the State of South Carolina within twenty-four hours from the time of his release from the State Penitentiary, and that he return to his family, in Turkey, within such time as he can reasonably make the trip. Parole dated November 25, 1913.



JOHNSON, JAMES (white), *alias* EDWARD MURPHY, *alias* EDWARD HOWARD, *alias* EDWARD SMITH, *alias* GEORGE HOWARD, *alias* PORTLAND NED: Convicted at the August, 1911, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following letter was received from the Clerk of Court of Spartanburg county:

"Spartanburg, S. C., April 23, 1913.

*In re* James Johnson.

Mr. John K. Aull, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of April 22 inst., in regard to one James Johnson. You will find certified copy of sentence imposed, and as to Johnson being the same person who served a term in the Federal Prison for breaking into the postoffice at Enoree, S. C., will say that he is the same person. This is about the only reliable information that I can give. Yours very truly,

(Signed) N. LEONARD BENNETT,

Clerk of Court.

By E. W. Miller, D. C."

The defendant has already served nearly seven years in the Federal Prison in Atlanta for breaking into the postoffice at Enoree, S. C. He was tried again in Spartanburg, under the laws of this State, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment, of which sentence he has served nearly two years, making a total of nearly nine years which he has served for this offense.

I have received several personal letters from prominent people of this State in reference to this man, asking that he be shown mercy.

"To the Citizens and Christian People of Spartanburg City and County:

As upward of two years have elapsed since I was brought from the Federal Prison at Atlanta, Ga., to Spartanburg, tried, convicted and sentenced to ten years imprisonment here in Columbia for an offense for which I had just completed a long term in the Federal Prison, I want to tell something of the offense, out of which the two sentences grew.

I was arrested by the Baltimore city detectives in October, 1904, held for some time and charged with most every crime on the calendar, but lack of proof showed that they had made a mistake. Then I was turned over to the tender mercies of Postoffice Inspector

Gregory and sent to Atlanta on the supposition of having entered the office of the Enoree Manufacturing Company and stolen money and stamps of more or less value, placed therein by the postmaster for safekeeping. I was given the extreme penalty of the federal law for that. After having completed this I was arrested at the prison gate and brought to Spartanburg and convicted for entering the same office and taking money belonging to the textile company and farmers living in and around Enoree, and again given ten years, the extreme penalty of the State law.

How it is possible for two separate and distinct offenses to grow out of this one I am unable to understand. If this mode of procedure is legal it could be claimed that the money contained in the vault was the property of several people, which would make it possible for me to be tried over and over again until the list of claimants gave out. The Constitution of the United States says that a person cannot be placed in jeopardy twice for the same offense and the above procedure appears to be in conflict with it. It appears that Postoffice Inspector Gregory, at whose instigation I was again tried, made a custom of doing this under the pretext of public policy, and the consideration of its legality, if it is legal, at least savors of injustice, in that two penalties are paid for the same offense.

Whatever phase the above conditions place upon the matter, I pass up, and I have only introduced them as a means to show the circumstances that are somewhat extenuating.

I am now asking you to look upon the human side. I have had a severe lesson, but man's extremity is sometimes God's opportunity. When I was brought to your city I thought 'To hell with everything—what's the use?'

But through the Christian influence of a Christian lady of your community, who visited me in the jail, I was led to see myself as I was. I think that was the darkest time of my whole life. Every man's hand was against me, and I had not looked on the face of a friend for seven years. I then realized that this Christian woman had not come to see me for morbid curiosity, but to scatter a little sunshine in the path of one in whom she believed there was some good in yet. Her goodness and letters of logical reasoning and Christian advice and encouragement acted on me like the voice Paul heard from the clouds in the environs of Damascus. I came to the realization that the ways of crime were temporal, as death, and as I had been temporarily dead in prison for a number of years,

I resolved to lift myself above my present environment and live in harmony with the laws of God and man, and thereby gain both spiritual and temporal life.

That I can live in the observance of those laws can only be demonstrated by giving me the opportunity, which is the object of this appeal for another chance and the common right to earn my way.

I am now passing the meridian of life and feel myself fast succumbing to disorders and weaknesses, due to long confinement, and if I am to have another chance, let it come while I yet possess the physical and mental strength necessary to make good.

I am fully aware that there will be those who will strenuously oppose my being shown any consideration. They will point to you the many men who are released from prison and resort to crime, as they always do. As evidence of what they will do to gain their ends, I will call your attention to the Weber-Rosenthal case in New York and to the case in your city in which I was made the goat out of in an effort to tarnish the character of others, which plainly showed that, although buried alive, they still consider me their natural prey.

I also refer you to the work of Brant Whitlock, the brilliant journalist and lawyer and Golden Rule Mayor of Toledo, entitled 'The Turn of the Balance.' He knows the underworld and the police who prey on it better than anybody else in the United States, and his book is absolutely true to life.

As I am penniless and friendless, I ask those who may read this and who think the severe punishment I have suffered is sufficient and my firm resolve to be a man if given an opportunity is meritorious and appeals to you as deserving of consideration, to kindly write a personal letter to his Excellency. I am sure he will hear my side of the story and I can show him that I have not had a good show yet. To those who may be skeptical and speak lightly of the above, I say, let him who is without sin cast the first stone, and point toward the East to the Mount of Calvary, where Christ died to redeem you and me.

Yours in expectancy,

JAMES JOHNSON."

A petition was presented, signed by the foreman and other members of the jury who tried the case; by Col. B. G. Landrum, and many of the other good, substantial citizens around and about the place where the crime was committed.

The following communication was also filed with the petition:



"Department of Justice,  
Office of the United States Marshal,  
District of South Carolina.

Charleston, April 12, 1913.

James Johnson, care State Prison, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I have yours of the 6th inst., requesting me to write the Governor and ask clemency for you. You say that you have resolved to 'have done with the old life and be a man in the future,' and I think that if you can convince the Governor that you would carry out this resolution and intend to do it that your case deserves his consideration, and I will write him to this effect. Your long imprisonment as a Federal and State prisoner for practically the same offense appeals to me, and I think will to all fair-minded and sympathetic men, and I feel confident that if you can convince those who have the power to help you to liberty that you will in the future live an honest and straightforward life that everyone would be glad to see you released.

Respectfully,

(Signed) J. D. ADAMS."

The defendant, having served nearly seven years in the Federal Prison in Atlanta, and nearly two years in the South Carolina Penitentiary, for the same offense, and in view of the petition, signed by so many of the jurors who tried him, I granted the defendant a parole, during good behavior, on April 25, 1913, in order that he may have an opportunity to go forth and redeem himself in the eyes of the world.

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JOHNSON, LUTHER (colored): Convicted at the February, 1911, term of Court for Williamsburg county, of assault and battery, and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment upon the public works.

The Board of Pardons submitted the following recommendation in this case:

"22.

Columbia, S. C., July 4, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Luther Johnson, Williamsburg county, convicted of assault and battery, sentenced eighteen months, February, 1911.

We concur in the recommendation of Judge DeVore and Solicitor Stoll, who tried the case, that the petitioner be paroled during good behavior. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons."

Upon the above recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form, and that he do not "shoot craps." Parole dated July 8, 1913.

JOHNSON, WALTER (colored): Convicted at the May, 1912, term of Court for Greenville county, of assault and battery, with intent to kill, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Greenville county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Mr. T. W. Earle, of Greenville, S. C., in which it is stated that the father and mother of this boy are hard-working darkies, and are old and need this boy to help them. The petition is accompanied by a letter from Mr. R. Y. Hellams, in which he states that he has known the family for years, and that they are good, peaceful people. Petition is also presented, signed by Mrs. J. T. Blassingame, Judge John T. Bramlett, Capt. F. B. McBee, Sheriff Hendrix Rector, and other citizens of Greenville, in which they request that this boy be paroled during good behavior.

Upon this showing, a parole has this day been granted to the defendant, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

JOHNSON, WILLIAM (colored): Convicted at the November, 1907, term of Court for Chester county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to twelve years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This negro was convicted for killing another negro. It seems that it was a fuss about a woman; and, as is well said in the petition, "the morals and the mode of living between colored people are not up to the standard adopted and lived up to by the white people; and, the petitioners could have gone further and said that it was more on the order of the lower animals, as the negro race has absolutely no standard of morality. They are, in that respect, a class by them-

selves, as adultery seems to be their most favorite pastime, regardless of morals, or the future condition of their race, reward or punishment.

The petition is signed by eleven of the jurors, and an affidavit showing that the other juror would have signed the petition, as he expressed his opinion to that effect before his death. The petition is also signed by the Clerk of Court, Probate Judge, Sheriff and other officers of Chester county; also by a very large number of good white citizens thereof. I notice the Solicitor in his recommendation says that it looks like a case of letting down the pinderpatch fence to let in pigs. The Solicitor should remember that among negroes there is no use to let down the fence to make a gap, for, as a usual thing, the latchstring hangs on the outside with them.

Upon the petition presented, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 13, 1913.

JONES, ALEX. (colored): Convicted at the October, 1911, term of Court for Edgefield county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Alex. Jones, Edgefield, manslaughter, three years, October 12, 1911.

Hon. S. McG. Simkins was heard in behalf of the petitioner. The Solicitor recommends parole when one-half of sentence has been served. Five of the jury who tried the case write strong letters asking for pardon. A great many of the best citizens of the community in which the crime was committed signed the petition, including Clerk of Court Cogburn, Jerome H. Courtney, Representative; Dr. John T. Eadwards *et al.*

We recommend with Solicitor Timmerman that the prisoner be paroled during good behavior, after having served eighteen months of his sentence. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."



This negro, having served eighteen months of a three-year sentence, in view of the above recommendation from the Board of Pardons, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, June 18, 1913.

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JONES, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the January, 1911, term of Court for Richland county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to two years for housebreaking and larceny, and one year each in three cases of larceny, total of five years, upon the public works of Richland county.

Following communication was received from Supervisor A. Patterson, Jr.:

"Columbia, S. C., October 28, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: In regard to the convict, Henry Jones, I would like to say that he has made a good prisoner and has given us no trouble at all. This negro was sentenced to serve five years, and inasmuch as he has served about three years of his sentence, I would be glad to see him paroled, and so recommend, if your Excellency sees fit to do so.

Yours very respectfully,  
(Signed) A. PATTERSON, Jr.,  
Supervisor."

The following certificate was submitted from Dr. Boyd:

"Hon. Andrew Patterson, Supervisor, Richland County, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: As the result of my examination of convict Henry Jones, of County Camp No. 1, I would advise you that I do not believe that his condition will improve enough for him ever to be useful on the gang again. He cannot receive proper attention other than in a hospital, and I am inclined to think that he has an intestinal tuberculosis.

Yours very truly,  
(Signed) WILLIAM A. BOYD, M. D."

Upon the recommendation of Supervisor Patterson, and the certificate from Dr. Boyd, as to the physical condition of the prisoner, and in view of the fact that he has served almost three years of a five-year sentence, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, on November 25, 1913.

JONES, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the October, 1907, term of Court for Cherokee county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to twenty years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This negro killed another negro, and upon investigation, and recommendation that he has made a good prisoner, his sentence was commuted to a term of twelve years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, on December 24, 1912.

The following letter from Hon. E. J. Watson, Commissioner of Agriculture, is self-explanatory:

"Columbia, S. C., July 26, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Sir: If you will pardon a suggestion, something I rarely make to any one, I would like to ask that you send for a negro convict, John Jones, now confined in the State prison, and get him to tell you his story. I believe in justice, and I don't believe this poor devil has had a look in at justice, but is paying a penalty that another ought to have been made to pay.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) E. J. WATSON,  
Commissioner.

P. S.—The negro happened to tell me his story while assisting in moving this office, and only today I ran across a memorandum to call the case to your attention. I know absolutely nothing else about it. He was sent up from Gaffney, Cherokee county."

After listening to this negro's plea, I am of the same opinion as the Commissioner; therefore, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

JONES, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Union county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to fifteen months imprisonment upon the public works of Union county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. J. F. Walker, Jr., member of the House of Representatives from Union county. It is signed by Judge J. M. Greer, Clerk of County Commissioners, Clerk of County Board, Col. James G. Long, Jr., and by a large number of the farmers and other citizens of Union.

In view of the strong petition presented, and the further fact that the defendant has served about fourteen months of a fifteen-month sentence, he was paroled, during good behavior, March 3, 1913.

JONES, TOM (colored): Convicted at the January, 1908, term of Court for Laurens county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Hon. F. P. McGowan, of Laurens, S. C., on March 8, 1911. At that time I did not think the defendant had been sufficiently punished for the crime he committed.

The petition presented states that "the said Tom Jones lost his right arm in the difficulty and shot the deceased, Robert Campbell, after he, Campbell, had shot the said Tom Jones seriously in the right arm. The said Tom Jones had always borne a good reputation, was industrious and hard working, a young man only 26 years of age, having a wife and child."

This petition is signed by the late Colonel T. B. Crews, O. C. Cunningham, R. P. Traynham, L. F. McSwain, J. C. McGowan, Probate Judge O. G. Thomas, Col. H. Y. Simpson, F. P. McGowan, E. P. Simpson, W. B. Knight, H. M. Wright, C. P. Barksdale, John M. Cannon, H. A. Blackwell, W. T. Crews, and other good citizens of the county of Laurens.

In view of the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant has served more than half of the sentence imposed upon him, he has this day been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

KAY, ARCH A. (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Anderson county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to eleven months imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county.

Petition in this case was presented by Mrs. Joe M. H. Ashley, wife of Sheriff Ashley, of Anderson county, in which it is stated that the defendant has served nearly seven months on the chain gang; that his sanity has been seriously questioned, he having since his conviction been examined for lunacy; that he is the son of a respectable widow lady near this city (Anderson); that we are of the opinion that the ends of justice have now been sufficiently met, and we believe that this man will behave himself if now given another chance.

This petition is signed by Mrs. Joe M. H. Ashley, Clerk of Court Jas. N. Pearman, Sheriff Joe M. H. Ashley, County Supervisor J.



Mack King, Deputy Sheriff J. Olin Sanders, and other good citizens of Anderson county.

Upon the petition presented, and in view of the fact that this boy has served nearly seven months of an eleven months sentence, he has been granted a parol, during good behavior, December 29, 1913.

KEELER, WILL (colored): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Greenville county.

Petition was presented by Hon. H. P. Burbage, of Greenville, S. C. The petition states that this is a hard-working, peaceable, "white folks" darkey; further, that he shot his adversary (a negro) only after he had been shot by the deceased; that he is suffering from heart and kidney trouble, and is now in jail at Greenville, having been returned there from the chain gang on account of his physical condition; that he is a burden on the county, but has people who will take care of him.

The petition is signed by the Master of Greenville county, Magistrate Stradley, Oscar Hodges, John M. Daniel, Probate Judge Bramlett, Sheriff Rector, and several of the jurors who tried the case, and other prominent citizens of Greenville county.

In view of the strong petition presented and his physical condition, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, April 12, 1913.

KELLEY, J. R. (white): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Darlington county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary—five years suspended, during good behavior, by Judge.

The defendant plead guilty to an assault and battery with intent to kill under an agreement made by his attorney and the Solicitor. The Judge, in passing sentence, sentenced him to ten years, but suspended five years, which, under a recent decision of our Supreme Court, made it but a sentence of five years. It seems to me from the circumstances connected with the case that Kelley should have been acquitted, but I suppose there was some reason, possibly in order to get him out of the neighborhood, that this agreement was made.

I have a certificate, however, from Superintendent Griffith and all of the guards at the Penitentiary, or nearly all of them, in which

they say that he has been of most excellent behavior, and that he has given no trouble at all. That bears date of September 2d. The following certificate is presented by Superintendent Griffith this morning:

"Dear Governor: W. Rosia Kelley has made a good, well-behaved prisoner since he has been here, worked well and given no trouble.

Yours very truly, (Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt."

Petition was also presented from the county of Darlington, signed by J. A. McLeod, B. L. Outlaw, J. P. Kirven, and by about one hundred and fifty of the other citizens of Darlington county. Also, the following endorsement from Solicitor Spears:

"If Kelley is paroled upon the same conditions as were imposed upon Wallace, that is, refrain from the use of intoxicating beverages, upon good behavior, and remain away from the Fourth Judicial Circuit, and support his wife and child, upon these conditions I would interpose no objections."

Upon the above showing, his conduct at the Penitentiary, the very strong petition presented in his behalf, and the endorsement of Solicitor Spears, and upon the further showing by his wife, who is present in the Governor's office, that she has herself and one child to support, and that she has absolutely no means of making a living, and has no money, and is now in distress, the recommendation of Solicitor Spears is adopted, and the petitioner has been granted a parole upon the following conditions: "During good behavior, and upon the further condition that he never return to the counties of Sumter, Darlington, Florence or Lee, and upon the further condition that he support his wife and child, and that he do not drink intoxicating liquors or beverages. Should the conditions of this parole be violated, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence imposed."

Parole dated November 25, 1913.

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KINARD, D. A. (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Bamberg county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by the Honorable S. G. Mayfield, of Bamberg, S. C. The petition is signed by practically all of the male operatives of the Bamberg Cotton Mills, in which they request that the defendant be granted a pardon, and in which petition they state

that one William Marvin, who was killed by the defendant, had only been in Bamberg a very short time, and that he came from Augusta, Georgia, where he had been as a strike-breaker during the recent street car strike there.

Another petition was presented, asking for his pardon, signed by Senator Black, both members of the House of Representatives from that county, Messrs. Hunter and Miley, by the County Treasurer, Judge of Probate, Clerk of Court, County Superintendent of Education, Sheriff, County Supervisor, County Auditor, Magistrate and his Constable, County Jailer, by the editor and manager of the Bamberg county *Times*, Captain Wright, of the Bamberg Guards; Col. J. D. Copeland, and many of the other very best people of the town and county of Bamberg, many of them being personally known to me.

In addition to the above, personal letters, setting out the circumstances, from R. L. Rischer, Carl C. Rowell, John J. Jones, of the town of Bamberg; H. W. Graham, and a strong personal letter from County Supervisor Bruce; personal letter from Senator Black, asking for clemency.

The following certificate from Dr. Stuckey:

"Bamberg, S. C.

This certifies that I have attended Mrs. David Kinard and that she is of a nervous temperament (Neuratic) and is now pregnant, time for confinement due at any time. She is under size, and her two previous labors were very hard.

She suffered from a threatened abortion due to her nervous condition.

Very truly,

July 21, 1913. (Signed)

HENRY J. STUCKEY."

Also petition from eight of the jurors who tried the case, who state that "certain matters and facts were not brought out before us that were barred by the technical rules of evidence, which, if we had had the benefit of, the verdict would have been different," and I am informed that these are all of the jurors who have been approached about the matter.

In addition to the above, the following communication was received:

"Bamberg, S. C., 1913.

Governor Blease: Little sister and me want you to send daddy back to us. We send you our pictures; now, please give us daddy.

(Signed) DAVID and MIRIAN KINARD."



Accompanying this letter is the photograph of a little boy four years old, and a little girl, two years old. Their father has been paroled, upon the showing made, and I hope that he will go back home and try to make a devoted father and husband, and a good citizen for his State. Parole dated August 8, 1913.

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KITTRELL, W. R. (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Richland county, of larceny, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county.

Petition was presented, signed by many citizens of Barnwell county, including Sheriff Morris, Clerk of Court Duncan, Judge of Probate Snelling, County Auditor Armstrong, Magistrate Holman. Also, by some citizens of Columbia. Supervisor Patterson, of Richland county, writes: "I have known him only since confined as a prisoner, and I am glad to state that he had made a good and obedient prisoner."

The following endorsement was submitted by Solicitor Cobb:

"Columbia, S. C., July 17, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: W. R. Kittrell, white, of Blackville, Barnwell county, South Carolina, was convicted on the 13th day of January, 1913, of larceny from the Western Union Telegraph Company, and was sentenced to one year imprisonment. The evidence against him was circumstantial, but the jury thought it sufficient, and I agree with them.

Mr. Kittrell's old mother and his wife, who has a six-year-old boy by Mr. Kittrell, have been to see me constantly about this man, and I have concluded to write and ask you, if you can consistently do so, to parole him, during good behavior, as he has now served about half of his sentence. I am assured by Kittrell's wife, that his health is not good, and that he is anxious to have an opportunity to amend his ways, and I believe this is a case where executive clemency would be proper. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) W. HAMPTON COBB,  
Solicitor Fifth Circuit."

Upon the petition submitted, and the above quoted recommendation from Solicitor Cobb, the defendant was paroled upon the condition that he leave the State of South Carolina within twenty-four hours and never return. Should he ever return to the State of

South Carolina, he shall be immediately arrested and required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned.

Parol dated July 22, 1913.

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LATIMER, GEORGE (colored): Convicted at February, 1910, Court of General Sessions for Abbeville county, before the late Judge Charles G. Dantzler, of assault and battery of high and aggravated nature, and sentenced, March 4, 1910, to hard labor for a period of seven years.

Petition was presented by Hon. J. L. Perrin, Clerk of Court of Abbeville county. Clerk of Court Perrin states: "This man was tried for assault and battery with intent to kill, and found guilty of assault and battery of high and aggravated nature. He has served over two and one-half years of the time, and has been a good worker, giving no trouble, and I feel that he has been punished sufficiently." The Clerk of Court presents a petition from the mother of the defendant, an old woman seventy years of age, who has a strong recommendation from the Clerk of Court. In endorsing this petition of the old woman, Clerk Perrin says: "I respectfully endorse the above petition, as I feel the boy has been sufficiently punished and his mother is a deserving woman."

Upon the showing made, the defendant was, July 12, 1913, paroled during good behavior.

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LAWSON, ROBERT (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Laurens county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Laurens county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Col. John M. Cannon, of Laurens, S. C.

The Board of Pardons presented a divided opinion—two of the Board recommending that the sentence be commuted to half—the other member recommending that he be paroled, during good behavior.

After thoroughly investigating the case, and the affidavits furnished from different parties in reference thereto, I am of the opinion that the father of this boy, who was killed by him, was much to blame for the way in which he had reared his son. It seems that he, the father, had encouraged the boy, and, in fact, had him to carry a pistol even from his childhood, and learned him other habits which

a father, instead of encouraging his son in, should have done everything in his power possible to have kept him from doing. It seems, therefore, to some extent, that the old gentleman truly reaped what he had sown.

Besides the affidavits which have been filed, which are entirely too long to print in these reasons, petitions were presented, signed by nearly two hundred of the best people living around in the community. The petitions also contain the names of the Deputy Sheriff Reid, County Treasurer Young, Deputy Clerk of Court Power, Representative Blackwell, Magistrate W. T. Crews, and some of the jurors who tried the case.

In addition to this, the wife of this boy has made a personal appeal in behalf of herself and child; she visited in person the Mansion and had a personal conference with Mrs. Blease, and from her statements, of her condition, I am satisfied, in view of the conditions and circumstances surrounding the case, that it is right that this boy should be given another showing. He is, therefore, paroled, during his good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not drink any intoxicating beverages or carry any kind of a weapon, either concealed or otherwise, about his person. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

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LEAKE, VANDOLF (colored): Convicted at the January, 1907, term of Court for Laurens county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Messrs. John M. Cannon and H. S. Blackwell, of Laurens, S. C., on April 27, 1911.

Solicitor R. A. Cooper, under date of June 2, 1911, in writing of this case, stated: "I would not oppose a pardon for this petitioner after he has served five years of his sentence. After he has served five years, as above stated, a pardon or parole would meet with no objection on my part."

In view of this endorsement, and the strong petition presented, which is signed by J. I. Copeland, J. H. Stone, J. R. Copeland, J. Y. Addy, D. W. Mason, B. Doster, W. A. Shand, R. R. Milam, A. B. Blakeley, R. L. Bailey, H. L. Todd, Thos. J. Duckett, R. P. Adair, W. R. Templeton, C. M. Bailey, M. S. Bailey, R. H. Young, W. H. Shands, and other citizens of the county of Laurens—the defendant having served more than six years imprisonment, a parole has been granted him, during good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.



LEAPHART, WESLEY (colored): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Newberry county, of larceny, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works of Newberry county.

The following letter was received from Rev. J. A. Sligh, the prosecutor in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., February 22, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I respectfully request that you parole or pardon West Leaphart, convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Newberry county, of stealing a bale of cotton from me fourteen years ago, and sentenced to serve six months on the public works. I believe the ends of justice have been met in this case. The negro is in bad health, and upon this ground, in addition to the fact that I believe his crime has been fully expiated by the sentence already served, and I urge executive clemency for him. He served several months in jail before his trial. Respectfully,

(Signed) J. A. SLIGH."

Upon this plea for mercy from the prosecutor, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, on the 25th day of February, 1913.

LESLIE, SPURGEON (colored): Convicted at the Spring, 1913, term of Court for Abbeville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This is a case of one negro killing another—the old familiar song—"Hot supper; liquor; dead negro."

The petition presented is signed by more than two hundred of the citizens of the community where the crime took place, in which they state that "the defendant acted in self-defense, and that he has already been more than sufficiently punished for the deed."

Upon the statement of Mr. S. M. Adams, and the petition presented from the neighborhood in which the crime was committed; and, in view of the fact that under the circumstances, if this negro had not killed the other negro, he would have been killed himself, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, December 31, 1913.

LEWIS, SAM (colored); LEWIS, ED (colored): Both convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of violation of the dispensary law, and the following sentence imposed: Sam Lewis,

18 months upon the public works or pay a fine of \$350; Ed Lewis, nine months upon the public works or pay a fine of \$200.

Petition was presented, signed by Hon. H. P. Burbage, Magistrate Samuel Stradley, Hon. F. B. McBee, H. B. Ingram, and many other citizens of the city and county of Greenville.

Upon the showing made, the defendants were paroled, upon the following conditions:

Sam Lewis—upon the condition that he pay to the Clerk of Court for the county of Greenville, South Carolina, the sum of \$100; and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned.

Ed Lewis—upon the condition that he pay to the Clerk of Court for the county of Greenville, South Carolina, the sum of \$50; and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned.

Both paroles dated July 26, 1913.

LEWIS, J. C. (white): Convicted at the May, 1911, term of Court for Horry county, of larceny of live stock, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and to serve three years upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented in March, 1912,—the defendant having been convicted in May, 1911, of larceny of live stock,—a hog of the value of six or eight dollars, and sentenced as above.

The petition is signed by a large number of the citizens of the neighborhood in which Lewis has been residing, and states: "We know his general reputation among his neighbors for honesty to have been good. He is a hard-working man, with a wife, who is also honest and hard-working, and six children, the oldest of whom is twelve years and the youngest two and a half months."

In addition to that petition, another petition was presented, signed by the Clerk of Court, Auditor, Probate Judge, Sheriff, Treasurer, Superintendent of Education, and County Commissioners of Horry county. Mayor of the town of Conway, and the Magistrate of said town.

At that time, I did not feel that the party had been sufficiently punished for the offense which he committed.

On July 6, 1912, the Board of Pardons unanimously recommended that the sentence be commuted to two years.

Upon the above mentioned petitions, and the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, April 25, 1913.

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LINDSAY, PERRY (colored): Convicted at the November, 1908, term of Court for Newberry county, of manslaughter and carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

A petition was presented, along with a transcript of the testimony taken at the trial; the petition being signed by the leading citizens of the community in which the crime was committed, and testifying to the previous good character of the defendant. Upon careful consideration of the entire case,—the testimony and the petition presented—the defendant having served more than four years in the Penitentiary, he was paroled, during good behavior, on March 3, 1913.

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LOCKHARDT, ANDERSON (colored): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Chesterfield county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Sheriff D. P. Douglass, of Chesterfield county. The petition states:

“The testimony was taken in the case and at the close of same the defendant made his plea and was sentenced as above stated, it being understood with the Solicitor and the defendant’s attorney that after the defendant remained on the chain gang for a period of six months that he would recommend his pardon. The testimony showed that the defendant was at the home of his brother, where he resided, and that the deceased, Dave Griffith, came there at a late hour in the night with another negro and started a row. The defendant went into the yard, or was jerked out of the house by the deceased and probably the other negro, and the shooting occurred. The defendant was in his night clothes in the yard when he killed Griffith. All the parties were negroes. We are fully satisfied that this is a case in which the pardoning power should be used, and we earnestly petition for the pardon of the defendant. We are informed that the negro



is now crippled and is not able to perform much work on the chain gang."

This petition is signed by Clerk of Court Mangum, Auditor T. W. Eddins, Treasurer W. A. Douglass, Sheriff D. P. Douglass, Representative W. P. Odom.

Solicitor Spears endorsed the petition as follows:

"I don't recall the case, nor the circumstances. If I made the agreement I certainly desire it carried out. Would more than likely to have agreed to recommend a parole than a pardon.

(Signed) SPEARS, Sol., June 13, 1913."

Judge Gary makes the following endorsement upon the petition:

"I respectfully recommend that petitioner be pardoned.

(Signed) ERNEST GARY, Trial Judge."

Upon the petition presented, the recommendation of the Judge and Solicitor, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 3, 1913.

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LOCKLEAR, CHARLES (Indian): Convicted at the November, 1902, term of Court; for Marion county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following communication was received from Col. D. J. Griffith, Superintendent of the Penitentiary:

"Columbia, S. C., March 7, 1913.

Governor C. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: We have prisoner here by name Charley Locklear, who has served about ten and a half years. He has been a good, well-behaved prisoner, and says that he has a petition filed in your office. This is to recommend him for good conduct.

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt."

After a careful search of the records in this office, no petition can be found in his behalf; however, this boy's duty was to open and shut the gates at the Penitentiary, and on my various visits to the Penitentiary, asked me to please do something for him. He is a cripple,—having very little use of one hand; and, in view of his long service, the fact that he has made a good prisoner, as testified to by Col. Griffith, and his youth, a parole, during good behavior, was granted to him on March 29, 1913.

LONG, GEORGE W. (white): Convicted at the January, 1912, term of Court for Greenwood county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years and six months imprisonment upon the public works of Greenwood county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petitions in this case were presented by the Honorable C. C. Featherstone.

I do not care to criticize the decision of the Courts, nor any action or the charge of a Circuit Judge, but, in my opinion, the defendant in this case should have been granted a new trial because of the fact that one of the jurors who served in the case made affidavit in the Court "that he was forced to agree to the verdict of manslaughter," and gave the following circumstances: That when the jury first retired, the ballot was taken, and they stood five for acquittal, four for manslaughter and three for murder, with recommendation to mercy, and that after considerable deliberation, they took another ballot, and another ballot, and finally it was proposed and agreed that whenever two-thirds majority voted one way that the balance of the jury would be bound thereby, and that in this way advantage was taken of him and he was thus forced to agree to this verdict. I know the Courts hold that they cannot take cognizance of what takes place in the jury room, but that I think is very erroneous and a bad policy. I know of my own knowledge, having been informed by as good men as there are in the State, of a case where a man was threatened to be thrown out of a window if he would not agree to a verdict of acquittal. He agreed, and a guilty man was allowed to go free. If similar circumstances took place, and an innocent man was convicted, most assuredly when the jurors who made the threat himself admitted the circumstances, the man should be granted a new trial, and I do not think any ironclad rule should hold in such matters, but that substantial justice should be done after all the circumstances are brought before the Court. The Judge might have refused to have listened to any of this on the broad principle that he would not take cognizance of what transpired in the jury room, but after he allowed it to be brought out in the Court, in open affidavits and statements, then I think he should have gone further and granted this man a new trial, and I most heartily concur with Associate Justice Watts in his dissenting opinion. However, I did not feel then that it would be right on my part, as Governor, to annul the acts of the Court, and upon this technicality release this defendant from all punishment, for I have never believed in the practice of law through technicalities in order to defeat substantial justice.

Petitions were presented, and on a trip to Newberry, during the session of the Court there, Mr. Featherstone and Solicitor Cooper appeared before me and were heard in reference to this matter. Mr. Featherstone's argument was very convincing, indeed, and Mr. Cooper addressed to Mr. Featherstone the following letter:

"September 30th, 1913.

Hon. C. C. Featherstone, Greenwood, S. C.

Dear Sir: Replying to your communication *in re* case of the *State v. Long*. I do not care to appear before the Board of Pardons in this matter, and I shall have nothing to say whatever *against* the pardon. I have always considered this a very close case, and I would not have been surprised if the jury had taken the view of the defendant and acquitted him. I am also satisfied that if the testimony of the physicians and nurses at the hospital in Augusta, had been before the jury that it would have strengthened the defense."

These affidavits here spoken of by Mr. Cooper were presented by Mr. Featherstone to me at the time of the hearing, at which Mr. Cooper and Mr. Featherstone were present. It should be noted particularly that Mr. Cooper says: "I shall have nothing to say whatever *against* the pardon." I take that to mean that while Mr. Cooper does not recommend the pardon directly, certainly it was his intention.

In addition to these affidavits mentioned by Mr. Cooper, other affidavits have been submitted, many of them which would be entirely out of the question to reproduce here, but they are, along with all the other papers, on file in the Governor's office and subject to inspection by anyone at any time.

I have also received many personal letters from prominent people and from ladies, requesting the pardon of this defendant. These letters include letters from Magistrate Cook, at Troy; Rev. S. R. Bass, Rev. Pett Boyd, Rev. D. C. Williams, Dr. D. W. Youngblood, Miss Nora Davis, Mrs. J. M. Cuddy, Mrs. Mollie Tittle, J. M. Cuddy, and many others. Also, a letter from Sheriff McMillan, which I give in full:

"Greenwood, S. C., Feb. 15, 1913.

His Excellency, Cole L. Blease, Gov., Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I'm writing you a line, asking for clemency in the case of Geo. W. Long, on the following grounds:

1st. He is a man.

2d. He was acting in the capacity of a peace officer.



3d. He was convicted on the testimony of his wife (wife of the dead man).

4th. Anyone knowing the character of J. T. Lyon would also know that the testimony of the daughter was manufactured by the father.

5th. Geo. Long made out a good case of self-defense.

6th. All the people except the immediate kin are looking to you in confidence for what they failed to get in the Courts, plain, common justice for Geo. W. Long.

7th. I would not write you a line, but would remain silent, had justice been done. Yours to serve,

(Signed) T. W. McMILLAN."

Also recommendation, signed by two members of the Board of Pardons, in which they recommend that the defendant be released after having served the minimum sentence for manslaughter.

In addition to this, a strong letter was received from Senator D. B. Johnson, of Greenwood, in which he requests that I pardon or parole Mr. Long.

In addition to all these affidavits, letters and recommendations, there is also presented petitions from the town of Troy, signed by ministers, bankers, mechanics, farmers, merchants, postmaster, mail carrier, physicians, undertakers, real estate dealers, and others, with the following affidavit attached thereto:

"Troy, S. C., January 6th, 1913.

Personally before me J. W. King, Sect. & Treas. of the town of Troy, South Carolina, who, being duly sworn, says that after examining the petition of Geo. W. Long, he finds that every man 21 years of age that lives inside the incorporate limits of the town has signed the petition, except three (3), and the three names that does not appear on the petition are all members of the family of L. P. Mullinax, Geo. W. Long and L. P. Mullinax, both lived inside the town.

(Signed) J. W. KING, Sec. & Treas.

(Signed) J. T. SOLOMONS,

N. P. S. C. (L. S.)."

In addition to this, strong petitions were presented, which include the names of Sheriff McMillan, Superintendent of Education Wide-man, Supervisor J. B. McComb, Master Moore, ex-Supervisor Burnett, D. H. Magill, member of the Board of Pardons; Magistrate McDowell, Dr. Milwee, ex-Mayor Kenneth Baker, L. C. Elledge, R. L. Ellis, former Senator J. M. Gaines, Wm. H. Hagood, D. T.

Major, chief of police; A. J. Sprowles, some members of the jury who tried the case, and many others, making in all seven hundred or more of the citizens of the county of Greenwood.

Petition was also presented from the county of Abbeville, signed by Senator Mars, Sheriff Lyon, Treasurer Bradley, Superintendent of Education Bradley, Auditor Sondley, County Commissioner McGill, Rev. J. M. Lawson, Judge of Probate Miller, Representative J. Howard Moore, and some members of the Abbeville bar. Another petition was also presented from the county of Abbeville, signed by more than two hundred and fifty of the citizens, including physicians, farmers, merchants, and others.

And, still another petition was presented, from the county of Newberry, signed by many of the best people in the neighborhood where Long once made his home. This petition is also signed by many citizens of the town of Newberry, where Long was well known, including W. A. McSwain, J. H. Summer, R. C. Perry, C. H. Cannon, Rev. D. P. Boyd, Dr. Jas. McIntosh, Dr. W. E. Pelham, Jno. B. Mays, J. A. Burton, Recorder Earhardt, Postmaster Hill, Clerk of Court Goggans, Geo. W. Summer, William Johnson, Supervisor Chappell, Clerk of Council Scurry, Magistrate Sample, M. L. Spearman, former Mayor Langford, E. B. Copeland, Sheriff Blease, Probate Judge Schumpert, I. H. Hunt, Esq., Master Rickard, Alderman Dominick, W. H. Wendt, Dr. W. G. Houseal, Alderman Baxter, Auditor Wertz, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate Schumpert, and that prince of gentlemen and biggest hearted of all men, Otto Klettner, and one hundred and fifty of the other good citizens of that county.

Along with all of this, certificate was presented from Dr. R. M. Fuller, of McCormick, S. C., in which he says: "George W. Long has been under my treatment for Bright's disease since the summer of 1910," and, the certificate from the physician at the Penitentiary reads as follows:

"To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that George W. Long, now confined in the S. C. Penitentiary, has Bright's disease, and the confinement is making the disease very much worse on him. I examined him on the first day he was admitted; found his urine loaded with alum and sugar. \* \* \* I have him on proper diet and treatment, but owing to the confinement, he is growing worse."

Thus, it will be seen: First. The dissenting opinion of that able jurist, Richard C. Watts, who does not quiver on technicalities, but

deals in good common sense, the best law in the world and all of the law when properly applied.

The Solicitor who prosecuted the case, some of the jurors who tried the case, all of the citizens, save three, of the town where the homicide was committed, hundreds of the citizens of the county where the homicide was committed, including the Senator and county officials; a strong petition from the adjoining county of Abbeville, including the Senator, Representative, county officials and other prominent citizens. A similar petition from the county of Newberry, an adjoining county, many personal letters from prominent people, including ministers of the gospel and many ladies. The recommendation of the Board of Pardons for the minimum term, which is two years.

The defendant having served nearly one year, taking into consideration the certificates of the physicians as to his condition, and in addition to this many affidavits in reference to certain testimony taken at the time of the trial, including affidavits of the nurses and physicians at the hospital at which the deceased died, and which the Solicitor admits had they been before the jury there would have likely been an acquittal—upon this very strong showing, and the condition of the defendant's health, I feel that it would be wrong to longer detain him. I have stated on the stump, before I was elected Governor, and I have stated from the rostrum, through the public press and otherwise, since I have been Governor, that if people signed petitions and sent them to this office, that, as their servant, I proposed to obey them, and if people do not want those who have been convicted of crimes paroled or pardoned, they can bring about, to a certain extent, their wishes, by keeping their names off these papers, but when the most intelligent, and the very best and influential citizens sign and request that a man be given relief from his sentence I, as every other sensible man must conclude, that they knew what they were signing and that they are asking for what they want, believing they would not be fools enough to put their names on the papers without realizing the effect of so doing. Therefore, the petitioner, George W. Long, has been granted a parole, during good behavior. Parole dated December 29, 1913.

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LORANCE, WILL (colored): Convicted at the August, 1911, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment upon the public works of Spartanburg county or in the State Penitentiary.



Petition in this case was presented by Mr. W. B. Burnett, of R. F. D., Spartanburg, S. C., and states:

"The unfortunate killing occurred at a festival at the house of Lorange. The testimony shows that the prisoner and the negro boy who was killed were unacquainted; had never seen each other until the evening of the unfortunate tragedy. This boy came from North Carolina, went to Lorange's house and a disturbance ensued; Lorange commanded peace; got out in his yard and fired off his pistol, thinking that he would frighten the disturbers and get them to keep quiet. It appears from the testimony that the piazza on which this negro boy was standing was several feet higher than the ground; Lorange was out in the yard and did not make proper allowance for this, and shot the deceased in the head. So far as the testimony discloses, it was just one of these unfortunate disasters, which seems to be a part and parcel of a negro festival. The prisoner has served about two years of his sentence. The killing, at best, could be termed criminal carelessness. The prisoner, so far as your petitioners are informed, has behaved himself well; labored industriously and made a good prisoner. In view of all the circumstances, your petitioners earnestly pray that your Excellency will see fit to commute the prisoner to imprisonment up to the present time, or to parole him, during good behavior."

This petition is signed by Supervisor Miles, Capt. J. J. Vernon, County Treasurer W. L. Epps, Register Mesne Conveyance T. R. Trimmier, Capt. Sam J. Nicholls, and a large number of the other citizens of Spartanburg county.

In view of the petition presented, and the defendant having served more than two years of an eight-year sentence, he was paroled, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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LOVETT, ARTHUR (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Richland county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works.

The petition presented states:

"That evidence produced in the trial of the case was largely circumstantial, and that Willie Harris, the son of the man upon whom the crime was alleged to have been committed, was the sole witness who said that it was Lovett. That this boy was very young, over anxious to have Lovett convicted, and that this, coupled with a prejudice against him, resulted in Lovett's conviction.

That the amount alleged to have been taken was less than one dollar.

That the prosecutor was defective in eyesight, and while he professed to know Lovett at sight, he accused the attorney for him, James H. Hammond, Esq., of being the party who made the assault, and only after reassurance would he be persuaded that said attorney was not the alleged assailant.

That Lovett has conducted himself since convicted in very becoming manner, and that his reputation as a convict is good. That for the alleged offense, should he have been guilty, which there is grave doubt, the length of service put in already is sufficient. That the offense was small and the penalty too large, and that the prejudice against him rendered his defense helpless.

Wherefore, petition prays that Arthur Lovett be paroled upon good behavior. (Signed) E. C. L. ADAMS, Petitioner.

May 21, 1913."

This petition is also signed by several of the jurors who tried the case, Representative J. T. Miller, Probate Judge Bellinger, Master McFadden, J. W. Thomas, A. E. Lorick and others.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 22, 1913.

LOWE, SOVEREIGN (white) : Convicted at the February, 1906, term of Court for Aiken county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Hon. John F. Williams, Senator from Aiken county.

The following certificate was filed by the Penitentiary Physician :  
"To whom it may concern :

This is to certify that Sovereign Lowe's right lung is affected.  
(Signed) R. T. JENNINGS, M. D. P. P."

Also certificate from Superintendent Griffith, to the effect that the petitioner is not a well man, and that he has been very good prisoner since he has been in the Penitentiary.

Certificate was also filed from Dr. W. S. Eubanks, in which he states that the defendant's lungs are affected. He further states that he lives in the community where the crime is supposed to have been committed, and that he thinks there is grave doubt as to his guilt, and that he should be released.

Solicitor Byrnes writes: "This is a matter purely in the discretion of the Governor, and if he grants the pardon, it is all right so far as I am concerned."

Present Solicitor Gunter states: "I think, under the circumstances, Lowe should be paroled."

A very strong letter was received from Col. E. R. Buckingham, in behalf of the defendant.

The following endorsement was made by Senator John F. Williams, of Aiken county: "I will be glad to see clemency shown Sovereign Lowe."

Dr. Hasting Wyman submitted the following communication in this case:

"Aiken, S. C., August 28, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I am writing in behalf of Sovereign Lowe, who was convicted at Aiken some time during the early part of 1909 of the murder of his wife. I was a witness in the case for the State, and stated that at the time of the post mortem examination upon the body of Mrs. Lowe, it was impossible to testify to a certainty that her neck was broken. If such was the case, however, it could have been broken or dislocated after the death as the body had been handled several times. And when I made the examination from which I testified she had been dead about ten days, during which time about two previous examinations had been made. The examination could not develop beyond reasonable doubt the guilt of the accused. I, therefore, feel justified in recommending a parole or pardon for him as your Excellency may deem proper.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) HASTING WYMAN, JR., M. D."

The following communication was also received from Clerk of Court and Chief Commissioner John Staubs, of Aiken county:

"Aiken, S. C., September 4, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: Owing to the condition of Sovereign Lowe's health and his conviction being upon circumstantial evidence entirely, we, the undersigned, do recommend a parole, on good behavior.

(Signed) JOHN W. DUNBAR,

Clerk of Court.

JOHN STAUBS,

Chief Com. Aiken County."



Under the above showing being made in behalf of this defendant, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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LOWMAN, PRESTON (colored): Convicted at the October, 1904, term of Court for Aiken county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works of Aiken county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Hon. Herbert E. Gyles, of Aiken, S. C., accompanied by a letter, which is as follows:

"Aiken, S. C., July 18, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I ask to present to you a petition for a full pardon for a negro, Preston Lowman, from this county, convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to serve seven years therefor, the sentence becoming effective October 31, 1901. His time has long since expired, except for the fact that he made a mistake in leaving camp and going to see some of his people and returning, as I understand it. He has long been a trusty, and is a hard-working, humble and respectable darkey, and many of the very best white people of Aiken and the surrounding county have signed the inclosed petition, among them the Chief Commissioner, county officials and leading and responsible and careful citizens.

I trust you may be able to see your way clear to grant this petition, for it is, in our judgment, meritorious.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) HERBERT E. GYLES."

The petition asking for clemency in this case is signed by Probate Judge Geo. C. Edmonston, Chief Commissioner John Staubs, L. M. C. Oliveros, Master; County Treasurer Wesley Yonce, Samuel Thomas, ex-County Commissioner; Col. Dave H. Wise, Auditor, and many other leading citizens of the county of Aiken.

In view of the petitions presented, and the communication above quoted from Hon. Herbert E. Gyles, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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McCULLOUGH, MARCUS (colored): Convicted at the November, 1905, term of Court for Chester county, of assault with intent to ravish, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented is signed by Mr. John Frazer, Mr. T. J. Cunningham, Hon. S. E. McFadden, ex-Senator J. L. Glenn, Clerk of Court J. E. Cornwell, and many other prominent citizens of Chester and vicinity.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Marcus McCullough; assault with intent to ravish; Chester; ten years; November 4, 1905.

This prisoner seems to have plead guilty, although about ten or twelve years of age. The Solicitor, Henry, doubts the guilt of the prisoner, and further says of the signers of the petition: 'They are our justice-loving citizens.' Many of them are well known to be of high standing and includes Hons. S. E. McFadden, David Hamilton, J. L. Glenn, T. J. Cunningham, J. J. Hardin, Drs. H. E. McConnell and H. M. Ross.

We recommend that the prisoner be granted a parole, during good behavior. Yours respectfully,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
Boards of Pardons."

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 3, 1913.

McIVER, CLARENCE (colored): Convicted at the March, 1910, term of Court for Lee county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Lee county.

A petition was presented in this case in which it is stated: "We are satisfied that the law has been vindicated, and that McIver has been sufficiently punished." This petition is signed by J. Manly Smith, ex-Sheriff of Lee county; Luther Keels, Professor William A. Stuckey, Postmaster Stuckey, Representative W. A. James, Probate Judge, Clerk of Court, County Supervisor, Superintendent of Education for Lee county, Rural Policeman Groom, Dr. DePass, Dr. Ellen, Captain W. S. James, and other prominent citizens of the county of Lee.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, February 6, 1913.

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McKINLEY, WILLIAM, *alias* BAYTON SCOTTY (white): Convicted at the June, 1907, term of Court for Aiken county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following letter was received from the petitioner:

"State Penitentiary, Columbia, S. C., November 23, 1913.  
Hon. C. L. Blease, Chief Executive of S. C.

Hon. Sir: As I have no money to procure the services of an attorney to present my case, I respectfully beg leave to submit the following for consideration:

I was arrested at Columbia, S. C., January 6, 1903, for the robbery of a postoffice located in a general store at Montmorenci, in Aiken county, S. C., which had taken place some days before the following April I was tried before the Federal Court at Charleston and found guilty of said robbery and sentenced to five years in the Federal Prison at Atlanta, Ga.

At the expiration of this sentence, I was again taken in custody by S. C. officials, at the instance of H. T. Gregory, and brought to Aiken, S. C., and there tried again for housebreaking and larceny, and, on conviction, received a sentence of ten years and one day. This charge consisted in my having entered the same building at the same time and appropriating the same articles as constituted the former offense for which I had just completed a five-year sentence in the Federal Prison at Atlanta. The same evidence that was used at the Federal trial was also used at the later trial.

I have learned from those who claim to be conversant with the law that the State has no jurisdiction as the Federal government assumes jurisdiction over all buildings in which postoffices are located.

As I was tried by the higher, or U. S. Court, it precludes the lower or State Court, from trying me again without placing me in jeopardy twice for the same offense. In substantiation of my contention that I have been twice placed in jeopardy for the same offense, I submit the following ruling, *State v. Connor*, 45 (5 Cold.), 311-315, Tenn.: 'Jeopardy,' as the phrase is used at common law, means nothing more than that when there has been a final verdict, either of acquittal or conviction, on an adequate indictment, the defendant cannot



the second time be placed in jeopardy for the particular offense, but as used in the constitutional provision prohibiting a defendant from being twice placed in jeopardy it has by many authorities been held to mean more than the common law means, that the accused shall not be twice tried for the same offense, and that putting him on trial merely was putting him in jeopardy of life or limb.

As a lawyer, you will readily discover from the foregoing whether or not I have been placed in jeopardy twice for the same offense, and as a man who is credited with being a friend to the weak, oppressed and friendless, I feel that you will make whatever adjustment you find the facts meriting.

Concluding, Hon. Sir, I ask nothing but what is fair to me and society. Hoping you will look into this matter at earliest convenience, I am,

Yours truly,

(Signed) WILLIAM McKINLEY."

The following communication from the Honorable Herbert E. Gyles, Mayor of the city of Aiken, has also been submitted in this case:

"Aiken, S. C., January 23, 1913.

Mr. William McKinley, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I recall your case and the fact that I acted Solicitor in prosecuting you. Under the circumstances, whenever the matter comes before me, my attitude will be to recommend your pardon, as I believe that having served a sentence already, and now having served a considerable portion of the sentence more recently imposed, you have been punished sufficiently.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) HERBERT E. GYLES."

Upon examination, it is found that this man served in jail and the Federal Prison, and the State Penitentiary, since the 6th day of January, 1903, which is nearly eleven years, on the charge of having broken into a store at Montmorenci, in Aiken county. If he had been convicted of murder or of burglary, the sentence would hardly have been more than what has been imposed upon him. In my opinion, I think it unjust and unfair for both the United States and the State to punish a man for one and the same offense, simply because there happens to be a little cheap postoffice stuck in the back of some little country store. I thoroughly agree with Mayor Gyles, who acted as Solicitor in the case, and upon this showing, and in view of the long imprisonment, which this man has suffered, and in

view of the further fact that he worked six years in the Hosiery Mill, South Carolina's notorious tuberculosis death-trap, I most assuredly feel that he is now entitled to some mercy.

The following certificate accompanies his papers:

"Columbia, S. C., November 26, 1913.

Dear Governor: William McKinley has been a good behaved prisoner. Gives us no trouble at all.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) D. J. GRIFFITH, Supt."

Upon this showing, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

McLURE, JAMES (colored): Convicted at the March, 1912, term of Court for Marion county, of receiving stolen goods, and sentenced to three years upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The following communication was received from Hon. Henry Mullins, Senator from the county of Marion, on February 22, 1913:

"To His Excellency, Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I was present at the hearing of the case of the *State v. Jim McLure*, and it is my opinion that the sentence was excessive, and that the defendant has served sufficient time and been fully punished for the charge against him.

Respectfully,

(Signed) HENRY MULLINS."

Petition was presented asking that the defendant be pardoned, signed by W. D. Platt, Hoyt McMillan, R. L. Mace, James Norton, Messrs. Huggins, Clerk of Court Miles, and other citizens of Marion.

The Board of Pardons recommended that the prisoner be granted a parole after having served two years.

Upon the petition presented, the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, and letter from Senator Mullins, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 17, 1913.

McLURE, WESLEY (colored): Convicted at the November, 1911, term of Court for Chester county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

It is set forth in the petition presented in this case that the defendant had great provocation; was cut almost to pieces with a knife and almost bled to death before he shot the man. This petition is signed by Samuel E. McFadden, David Hamilton, A. L. Gaston, J. E. Cornwell, S. E. Wylie, W. H. Newbold, W. D. Knox, D. E. Colvin, and other officials and prominent citizens of the town of Chester, and by a large number of the jurors, in which they request a pardon.

Also a second petition, signed by several of the jurors, and 169 citizens of Chester, including several officials, asking for a pardon; also affidavits and letters and doctors' certificates.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled upon the condition that should he ever be convicted again of any offense in the General Sessions Court of this State, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned.

Parole dated March 21, 1913.

MACON, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the April, 1910, term of Court for Chester county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented, signed by five of the jurors who tried the case, County Treasurer S. E. Wylie, Clerk of Court J. E. Cornwell, Sheriff D. E. Colvin, Deputy Sheriff W. W. Bindeman, and other prominent citizens of the county of Chester, in which they state that they feel that the defendant has been sufficiently punished, and pray that a full pardon be granted to him. Solicitor J. K. Henry endorsed the petition as follows: "I drew up this petition or dictated it to the typewriter. The facts are that John Winn had a woman or wife; Macon became enamored of her; Winn moved his wife to another neighborhood; Macon continued his attention and Winn, returning home, his woman being absent, on hunt of her, ran on Jno. Macon and the woman in a thicket. Winn was not armed. John Macon shot him to death and plead self-defense; was convicted.

Respectfully submitted,

May 13, 1913.

(Signed) J. K. HENRY, Sol."

County Treasurer S. E. Wylie, under date of May 27, 1913, filed the following communication with the papers in this case:



"Chester, S. C., May 27, 1913.

His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease:

Dear Sir: I desire to give you some information concerning John Macon, for whom there has been a petition circulated asking your clemency, which I hope you can see reason to grant.

I have known John Macon practically all his life, and his father and mother before him and I never knew him or any of them to ever be in any trouble before, and, too, they have always been looked upon as above the average darkey from the point of intellect and honesty; and I knew John especially well the last five (5) years prior to his getting into this trouble, for he worked with me on the farm as wage hand for three years and trusted him in every way and had not the slightest reason to doubt his honesty; the other two years he was renting from me, and am free to say that through all this period I have never had a more faithful man about me.

I am free to admit that he committed a wrong, but not with any criminal intent, as evidence of the fact after he had shot the man in the leg with a shotgun, in the front part of the leg, the load ranging upward, he wrapped him in a quilt, as was brought out in the Courts, and then went home, more than a mile, and told his brother, Bob Macon, and Will McCollough, what he had done and asked them to go and take this man up and look after him; and, too, he stayed at home till the Constable went for him and never made any attempt to get away—all of which I think shows up the inner man just as I have shown above.

The above is for the feeling only that I have for John Macon and not for any solicitation from him or any of the family.

Hoping that the prayer of the petitioners may be considered and granted at an early date, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) S. E. WYLIE."

In view of the petition presented, and the above communication from Treasurer Wylie, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 31, 1913.

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MANIGAULT, LEVI (colored): Convicted at the February, 1906, term of Court for Charleston county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

I have noticed this boy working around the State House; he is always faithful and prompt in his work.

Petition was presented in his behalf, signed by Hon. N. B. Barnwell, member of the House of Representatives from the county of Charleston, and accompanied by a personal letter from Mr. Barnwell; also affidavit from Hon. St. Julian Jervay, who was Solicitor at the time of the trial.

On a petition submitted to former Governor Ansel, Judge Chas. G. Dantzler made the following endorsement:

"I have no recommendation to make *at this time*. At some future time there may be reason to commute the sentence.

(Signed) CHAS. G. DANTZLER, Trial Judge.

January 24, 1907."

This petition is signed by all twelve of the jurors, in which they state, "after due deliberation and consideration, do recommend to the Court that the verdict heretofore rendered by us in the above case be set aside, and that the defendant be permitted to plead guilty of the offense of manslaughter." This petition was filed with former Governor Ansel on December 31, 1906.

Upon this showing, and in view of the fact that the defendant has served seven years in the Penitentiary, a parole, during good behavior, was granted to him on February 24, 1913.

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MASON, CHARLIE (colored): Convicted at the August, 1898, term of Court for Laurens county, of murder, and sentenced to be hanged, sentence commuted to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary by Governor McSweeney.

On April 29, 1913, the Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Charlie Mason; Laurens; murder; life imprisonment, 1898.

This prisoner's original sentence was death. Governor McSweeney commuted it to life imprisonment. We find that all twelve of the jury who tried the case signed the petition for a pardon. This was a very intelligent jury, and included Messrs. J. O. C. Flemming, foreman; M. J. Owens, S. P. Babb and S. G. McDaniel. These gentlemen are known to one of this Board as men of high standing and proper regard for the enforcement of the law. The petition is

signed by many of the best citizens of Laurens, some of whom are known all over our State for their integrity and high standing. We feel that a petition signed by such men should have great weight, and it certainly has its influence in our consideration of this petition. The following are only a few of the signers: The late Col. T. B. Crews, Messrs. C. B. Simmons, H. Terry, J. S. Machen, C. H. Roper, John A. Franks, John H. Peterson, C. E. Kenedy, W. H. Gilkerson, D. H. Counts, J. Wade Anderson, J. W. Thompson, E. P. Minter, ex-Sheriff Geo. S. McCravey, and Chief of Police Bagwell.

The record of the prisoner at the Penitentiary has been excellent. For eight years he has been a 'trusty,' and while in jail before going to the Penitentiary he prevented a conspiracy among the prisoners to assault the jailer and the escape of a number of other prisoners. Judge Klugh and the Solicitor who tried the case endorse on the petition 'as the jury has seen fit to recommend this petition, I will not stand in the way of a pardon or parole.'

The Hon. H. S. Blackwell, attorney, of Laurens, was heard in behalf of the petitioner, and in view of the above, together with the showing made, we recommend that the prisoner be granted a parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

Upon the above recommendation, and the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 31, 1913.

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MATTHEWS, SAM (colored): Convicted at the July, 1907, term of Court for Colleton county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons submitted the following recommendation in this case:

"41.

Columbia, S. C., July 4, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Sam Matthews; Colleton county; convicted of manslaughter; sentence ten years; July 8, 1907.



On the favorable endorsement of Judge Ernest Gary and Solicitor Jervey, together with the strong letter of Hon. M. P. Howell and the personnel of the signers of the petition, and furthermore, in consideration of his having served about six years, we recommend a parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
D. H. MAGILL,  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

Upon the recommendation submitted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form, and that he do not "shoot craps." Parole dated July 8, 1913.

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MATTISON, JIM (colored): Convicted at the September, 1911, term of Court for Anderson county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented states: "The negro who was killed, John Sims, went to Mattison's house, without invitation, and became violent and disorderly; the killing grew out of the efforts of Mattison to defend his home from violence and disorder, and to get said Sims to leave his premises,—said Sims, from the testimony, having a bad reputation for turbulence and disorder, having made threats that he was going to this place for trouble, and having made an assault upon Mattison."

This petition is signed by the foreman and other members of the jury who tried the case, and other citizens of the county of Laurens.

In view of the petition presented, the defendant having served more than two years of the three-year sentence imposed upon him, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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MILLIGAN, ISAAC (colored): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Berkeley county, of larceny, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. F. M. Bryan, former member of the House of Representatives from Charleston county, and Mr. Thomas P. Stoney.

The petition is signed by A. R. Dennis, the prosecutor in the case; County Supervisor L. W. Hill, of Berkeley; R. G. Causey, Sheriff, Berkeley county; Clerk of Court T. W. Williams, C. M. Wiggins, Auditor, Berkeley county; R. D. Guilds, Treasurer; Senator E. J. Dennis, County Superintendent of Education A. H. DeHay, and other prominent citizens of Berkeley county. The petition is accompanied by the following letter from Senator Dennis:

"Monck's Corner, May 31, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Sir: From what I can learn of the physical condition of Isaac Milligan, who is now asking for a pardon, he is in a desperate condition and will certainly die unless something is done for him immediately; therefore, I hope that you can do something for him.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) E. J. DENNIS,  
Senator, Berkeley County."

Also, the following certificate as to the prisoner's health:

"Pinopolis, S. C., May 31, 1913.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that I have been attending Isaac Milligan, and that he is suffering from organic heart disease, from which he can never recover. (Signed) W. K. FISHBURNE, M. D."

Upon the petition presented, and the certificate from Dr. Fishburne as to the defendant's health, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, June 20, 1913.

MILLER, CHARLIE (colored): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Spartanburg county.

The petition presented shows that this party has served about three months of a twelve-month sentence, for the selling of one pint of liquor. The petition is signed by a large number of the reputable citizens of the community where the negro lives, in which they state that he is a good negro, and is not accustomed to violat-

ing the laws. The petition is signed by Hon. N. L. Bennett, S. E. Hendrix and many other of the best citizens of the community.

In view of the fact that the defendant has served what seems to me to be a sufficient length of time for the offense committed, he was paroled upon the condition that if he is hereafter convicted of selling whiskey again, that he be required to serve the remainder of the above mentioned sentence. Parole dated March 28, 1913.

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MILLER, FLOYD (colored): Convicted at the October, 1909, term of Court for Lancaster county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The following communication was received from Senator T. J. Strait, of Lancaster county:

"Lancaster, S. C., May 2, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: *In re* State v. Floyd Miller.

Enclosed you will find a petition praying for the pardon of one Floyd Miller, a young colored man who is now serving a sentence upon our county chain gang, also a personal letter from R. H. Massey, of Van Wyck, this county, who was the prosecutor in the case of Miller.

You will also note that the foreman of the grand jury, a resident of the town of Lancaster and a very intelligent merchant, has also signed the petition, along with Mr. J. E. Stewman, Probate Judge, and Paul Moore, Clerk of Court. The other signatures to the petition are all residents of the little village of Van Wyck, at which place the store of Massey & Yoder was burglarized by the defendant Miller.

As the County Physician, I have been attending and prescribing for Floyd Miller for some time. He is suffering and has been for months with an aggravated case of kidney trouble, which has incapacitated him for anything like arduous labor. While, of course, I cannot say positively, yet it is highly probable, that the kidney trouble which he has contracted will remain permanently. In the condition he now is and is likely to remain he is of no practical use on the chain gang.

In view of the fact that the prosecutor in the case and the owner of the store burglarized by Miller is anxious to have the defendant pardoned, as are also practically the entire citizenship of Van Wyck,



coupled with the serious physical condition of the defendant, I hope you may see your way clear in the exercise of a proper mercy to grant the pardon prayed for in the enclosed petition.

Without desiring to urge any undue haste in the matter, I hope you will take up this matter at your earliest convenience in view of the condition of the health of the defendant.

With best wishes for your health and the continued success of your administration, I am,

Yours very truly,  
(Signed) T. J. STRAIT, M. D.,  
State Senator."

Also, the following letter was submitted from the prosecutor, Mr. R. H. Massey:

"Van Wyck, S. C., April 25, 1913.

His Excellency, Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: We having signed a petition asking that Floyd Miller be pardoned, I have been requested to write you a letter stating my position in the matter. Miller burglarized my store and was convicted for it, having now served nearly four years for this, and as I understand is not in good health, I think he has been sufficiently punished for this crime.

Would be glad if you can see your way clear to grant him a pardon. Thanking you, I am,

Respectfully yours,  
(Signed) R. H. MASSEY."

In view of the physical condition of the defendant, as stated by Dr. Strait, the County Physician; the prayer of the prosecutor, and the petition submitted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 10, 1913.

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MILLER, J. A., *alias* ANDY MILLER (white): Convicted at the July, 1912, term of Court for York county, of indecent and aggravated assault—three cases—and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary in each case—total of six years.

Petition was presented, signed by a large number of the citizens around Rock Hill, where the alleged offenses were committed. After careful examination, I am satisfied that this defendant was not the guilty party, but on account of his being a foreigner—having only been in this country a short while—he was made the victim and the scapegoat for others; that he merely paid a photographer

the price that he demanded for the taking of the pictures. It seems that the Judge and Solicitor, who were so outraged about this case, did nothing but join in, taking everything out on the poor foreigner. It seems also that there was nothing done with the old woman who furnished the girls. The girls were not injured in any manner, shape or form—their pictures only being taken. They were children, and I am forced to the conclusion, after a thorough investigation of the matter, that this defendant was made the scapegoat for the real criminals—the photographer being allowed to turn State's evidence and receive immunity, and the old woman was allowed to pay a fine of \$10. In addition to this, the boy has been working in the hosiery mill, has made a good and faithful prisoner, and is now in bad health. I have had him examined carefully by Dr. J. W. Babcock, Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane, who submitted the following certificate as to his condition:

“Columbia, S. C., June 28, 1913.

His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Sir: In accordance with your request I have examined J. A. Miller, a convict in the State Penitentiary, and beg to report that I find the said Miller suffering with a chronic skin disease, known as eczema marginatum. This disease is caused by a vegetable parasite (as proven by microscopic examination in this case), is communicable and difficult to cure. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) J. W. BABCOCK, M. D.”

I have placed him under Dr. Babcock for treatment, because I do not think it would be right to turn him loose on the public with this disease, knowing that he is a poor man and a stranger in a strange land and unable to take care of himself. When the doctor shall have pronounced him fit to go amongst the public he will be released. He is, therefore, paroled during his good behavior.

Parole dated June 28, 1913.

MILLER, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the February, 1897, term of Court for Laurens county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The defendant having made a good prisoner, faithful in the performance of the work assigned to him, and he having served so much of his sentence, a parole was granted him, during good behavior, March 29, 1913.

MINOR, HENRY (white): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of General Sessions Court for Newberry county, before Judge R. W. Memminger, of larceny, and sentenced to three years imprisonment.

Petition presented by the prosecutor, Charles H. Dudley, states that this young man "has served ample and sufficient time to atone for what he is accused of doing" and "that his mother is a poor widow and practically an invalid, who needs the care and help of her boy." The property was alleged to have been taken from one Charles H. Dudley, a merchant of Newberry, better known as "Dollar Down," whose name is the first upon the petition. Petition is also signed by the Sheriff of the County, the County Auditor, the Clerk of the City Council, ex-Representative John M. Taylor, the County Supervisor, by several other of the prominent citizens of the town of Newberry, and by more than 100 of the cotton mill boys, to whom the facts of this case are well known, as is the condition of this boy's mother.

Upon this showing, the defendant is paroled, August 13, 1913, during good behavior.

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MITCHELL, FRANK (white): Convicted before Magistrate J. E. Riley, at Piedmont, S. C., during November, 1913, of petit larceny, and sentenced to thirty days imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county.

Petition was presented by Sheriff Joe M. H. Ashley, signed by himself, Magistrate Riley, and other citizens of Anderson county, in which it is stated: "We, the undersigned, petition Governor Cole. L. Blease for the release of Frank Mitchell. Prosecutor wishes him released on grounds that he returned all goods taken, and prosecutor was not present at time of trial."

Sheriff Ashley states in a letter about the case: "From what I could learn, the fellow hasn't got any too much wit. The Magistrate sent him up for stealing some clothing from his brother-in-law."

Magistrate Riley states: "In regard to this man, Frank Mitchell, brought before me, charged with petit larceny, the aforesaid did plead guilty of charge. As it is the wish of prosecutor that he be released, it is my wish also."

In view of the petition presented, and the statements from Sheriff Ashley and Magistrate Riley, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, November 14, 1913.



MIZE, LOGAN (white): Convicted at the March, 1912, term of Court for Cherokee county, of larceny of live stock, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented, signed by a large number of the citizens of Cherokee county.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Logan Mize, Cherokee, two years, March 13, 1912.

We respectfully refer to endorsement of Judge Gage, who tried the case, and concur in recommending parole during good behavior.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

Judge Gage endorsed the petition as follows:

"To His Excellency, Gov. Blease:

If the allegations of the petition be true, I think the case is a proper one for executive clemency. Respectfully,

(Signed) GEO. W. GAGE,

January 30, 1913.

Circuit Judge."

Upon these recommendations and the petitions submitted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 31, 1913.

MOBLEY, SIM (colored): Convicted at the July, 1909, term of Court for Saluda county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"13.

Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Sim Mobley, Saluda, manslaughter, five years, 1909.

Reference is respectfully made to our report, dated January 3, 1913, in which we recommend refusal of the petition. Since then we find additional strong papers from the county officials and Solicitor Timmerman, who tried the case. (The Judge is dead.) The prisoner has been faithful and has served all but about eight months of the sentence. We therefore recommend that he be paroled during good behavior. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 8, 1913.

MOODY, ERNEST (white): Convicted at the July, 1912, term of Court for Kershaw county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

On May 1, 1913, the Board of Pardons made the following recommendations in this case:

"73.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Ernest Moody and Sadie Moody, Kershaw county, convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill, sentenced one year, July 3, 1912.

Attorney A. C. DePass, prosecuting witness B. A. Bowen and Hon. M. L. Smith were heard in behalf of the petitioner. We considered these cases together, as they were tried together, and the Supreme Court passed upon them together. We find it quite a strong petition, and the papers show the younger prisoner, Ernest Moody, is suffering from tuberculosis. The petition is signed by Senator Hough, C. W. Burchmore, editor; Sheriff Huckabee, J. L. Kirkland, M. W. Baker, J. W. Rose and others. In addition to signing the petition the prosecuting witness comes before us and makes a plea for clemency. Hon. M. L. Smith, Speaker of the House of Representatives, who assisted in the prosecution, also appears before the Board, in addition to his endorsement of the papers, and urges clemency. Solicitor Cobb endorses that he will recommend clemency for Ernest later. Under the above showing

we recommend that the prisoner, Ernest Moody, be pardoned, and that Sadie Moody be paroled after six months' service of sentence.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon the above recommendation, the defendant, Ernest Moody, was granted a parole, during good behavior, June 5, 1913.

MOODY, JOSH (colored): Convicted at the March, 1909, term of Court for Chester county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works of Chester county or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on October 3, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., October 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Gov., Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Josh Moody, Chester, assault and battery with intent to kill, seven years, March 27, 1909.

This is a strong petition and is endorsed by the Solicitor. The prisoner has served about four and one-half years. Under this showing, we recommend a parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

Upon the above quoted recommendation from the Board of Pardons, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

MOODY, SADIE (white): Convicted at the July, 1912, term of Court for Kershaw county, of assault and battery, with intent to kill, and sentenced to one year imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Kershaw county.

The Board of Pardons, on May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation:



"Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Ernest Moody and Sadie Moody, Kershaw county, convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill, sentenced one year, July 3, 1912.

Attorney A. C. DePass, prosecuting witness B. A. Bowen and Hon. M. L. Smith were heard in behalf of the petitioner. We considered these cases together, as they were tried together, and the Supreme Court passed upon them together. We find it quite a strong petition and the papers show the younger prisoner, Ernest Moody, is suffering from tuberculosis. The petition is signed by Senator Hough, C. W. Burchmore, editor; Sheriff Huckabee, J. L. Kirkland, M. W. Baker, J. W. Rose, and others. In addition to signing the petition the prosecuting witness comes before us and makes a plea for clemency. Hon. M. L. Smith, Speaker of the House of Representatives, who assisted in the prosecution, also appears before the Board, in addition to his endorsement on the papers, and urges clemency. Solicitor Cobb endorses that he will recommend clemency for Ernest later. Under the above showing, we recommend that the prisoner, Ernest Moody, be pardoned, and that Sadie Moody be paroled after six months' service of sentence.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

In view of the above quoted recommendation from the Board of Pardons, and the fact that the defendant has served more than six months of his sentence since the recommendation was made, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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MORGAN, JOHN (colored): This defendant was convicted before Judge G. Duncan Bellinger, Probate Judge for Richland county, on February 11, 1913, of gambling, disorderly conduct and petit larceny, and committed to the State Reformatory for Colored Youths until he became twenty-one years of age.

Petition was presented, accompanied by the following recommendation from Judge Bellinger:

"In view of the law requiring admission to Reformatory during minority, I was compelled to give the full term, otherwise I would

have given a lighter sentence conditioned upon good behavior after release. Therefore, I recommend a parole for John Morgan, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) G. DUNCAN BELLINGER,

September 25, 1913.

Judge of Probate, R. C., S. C."

A certificate was also submitted from Mr. S. A. Lindsay, Manager of the Reformatory, in which he states:

"I wish to state that his behavior, while here at the Reformatory, has been very good."

Upon the recommendation of the Judge of Probate, who passed the sentence upon this defendant, and his good behavior since being confined in the Reformatory, a parole has been granted him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

MORRIS MANOR (white): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Bamberg county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"4. Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Manor Morris, manslaughter, Bamberg, five years, November 12, 1912.

Attorneys C. A. Best and W. E. Free (of Free & Mayfield) were heard in behalf of the petitioner. This is a strong petition, and includes ten of the jury. The good conduct of the prisoner and his declining health is attested by the county officials. We recommend a parole after the prisoner has served two years. This would be the minimum sentence for manslaughter.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form. Parole dated July 8, 1913.

MURRAY, J. E. (colored): Convicted at the May, 1910, term of Court for Calhoun county, of bigamy, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Calhoun county.

Petition was presented by Hon. H. C. Paulling, of St. Matthews, S. C., and is signed by Hon. J. A. Banks, Senator from Calhoun county; former State Treasurer W. T. C. Bates, Intendant of the town of St. Matthews, Hon. Walter Speigner, Dr. T. H. Symmes, W. F. Buyck, Esq., Mr. J. W. Hennagan, A. M. Smoak, W. W. Fair, J. H. Fair, Mortimer M. Jareckey, and many other citizens of the town of St. Matthews.

If every negro in this State that is guilty of bigamy or adultery is brought up and convicted, labor will be much scarcer than it is and many acres that are now cultivated will be idle.

The defendant having served three years and six months of the sentence imposed upon him, and in view of the strong petition presented in his behalf, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

MYERS, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the July, 1911, term of Court for Barnwell county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Barnwell county.

Petition was presented by Senator A. B. Patterson, of Barnwell county, accompanied by a communication from Jas. M. Patterson, Esq., Attorney at Law from Allendale, S. C., in which he states that this party was only fourteen years of age when convicted; that his father, who is now about eighty years old, has always voted the Democratic ticket. The petition states "that in 1897, the said Tom Myers (this boy's father) was injured by a horse, supposed to have rabies, and was himself very ill, and during his illness suffered from mania of various forms. And that his wife attended and nursed him throughout. A month after his recovery she gave birth to a boy, who, as he grew, developed periods of moroseness and apparent lunacy. That when he reached the age of twelve years it was found that he was a confirmed kleptomaniac." This petition is signed by W. T. Breeland, attending physician; J. Henry Johnson, J. F. Keel, J. J. Owens, and other citizens of Barnwell county, in which they ask that the sentence be reduced, in view of the fact that the prisoner has served almost two years of his sentence, and his physical and mental condition.



Upon the showing made, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, May 26, 1913.

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NEIL, SAM (colored): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Marion county, of rape, second count, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Marion county or in the State Penitentiary.

In passing upon this case, the Board of Pardons, on July 4, 1913, stated: "This is a very strong petition, and we would be glad to hear from Judge Shipp as to what he thinks about the case. His endorsement will be appreciated."

The papers were referred to Judge Shipp, and upon them he made the following endorsement:

"I thought the evidence sufficient to sustain the conviction, but I know nothing of the alleged new evidence or developments. I do know a number of those signing the petition, and they are most substantial citizens. In view of this, I recommend parole, during good behavior, the defendant having served one year.

(Signed) S. W. G. SHIPP,  
Presiding Judge."

July 23, 1913.

The Board of Pardons, on October 3, 1913, upon the petition being again referred to them, made the following recommendation:

"Columbia, S. C., October 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Sam Neil, Marion, rape, second count, with recommendation to mercy, five years, June, 1912.

Reference is respectfully made to our endorsement of July 4th. This is a very strong petition and is signed by the Senator, Representatives, county officials and citizens of high standing of Marion county. The mother of the alleged victim, as well as the prosecutor, join in the prayer for pardon. Judge Shipp also favors clemency.

Under this showing, we respectfully recommend a parole, during good behavior. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

Upon the recommendations made by the Board of Pardons, and the endorsement above quoted from Judge Shipp, who tried the case, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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NELSON, ELIJAH (colored): Convicted at the February, 1907, term of Court for Aiken county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Aiken county.

Petition was presented, accompanied by the following letter:

"Perry, S. C., February 10, 1913.

Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: We wish you to pardon Lige Nelson, who was convicted several years ago on a warrant sworn out by us for breaking into our store. This negro has not rewarded us, nor shall he do so, nor shall he work for either of us, but the sole reason for our asking a pardon is the desire to see simple justice done. We feel that he has been punished sufficiently, and would respectfully ask his pardon. We volunteer to make this request.

Respectfully,

(Signed) B. A. HUTTO,  
CURTIS S. HUTTO."

The petition is signed by these gentlemen; also by Sheriff Rabon, Probate Judge Edmonston, Master Oliveros, Senator John F. Williams, former Representatives Butler and Trunbull, Magistrate Garvin, Representative Busbee, Rev. Jno. A. Salley, and many of the other good citizens of Aiken.

Another petition was presented, signed by the Chief Commissioner of Aiken county, Staubs; Representative Hugh Long, Magistrate William M. Smoak, ex-Mayor of Aiken and now County Attorney J. B. Salley, with the following letter from Hon. Claude E. Sawyer: "I was the acting Solicitor who prosecuted this man. I thought at the time that a pardon should be granted after two years. I therefore endorse the recommendation for a full pardon. (Signed) Claude E. Sawyer. October 29, 1913."

In view of the above recommendations, and the petitions presented, and the further fact that the defendant has served nearly seven years of a ten-year sentence, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

NICHOLS, F. J. (white): Convicted at the August, 1912, term of Court for Fairfield county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to fifteen months imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This prisoner wrote a letter to the Governor, as follows:

"February 23, 1913.

His Excellency, Governor Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Honorable Sir: Simeon Ellis (colored), a prisoner \* \* \* I understand, was talking to you yesterday, Saturday, on the street. He was working on the city street detail, and as you passed asked his guard, Corporal Boykin, to speak to you and Boykin refused him the permission to do so, and he spoke to you anyhow.

Today he was brought up before Captain Sondley by Boykin and was sentenced to the stocks, and Ellis says he was struck 45 or 50 lashes, he cannot say the exact number, and his back now shows the result from his head down to his hips.

I am telling you this as a matter of information, which I think you will be glad to know at this time, as I am very well posted as to what your policies are regarding such things regarding the State Penitentiary.

Therefore I do not hesitate to send you this information, as I know that you will not give the source of your information.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) F. J. NICHOLS.

Monday morning.

Ellis was taken to the blacksmith shop and a pair of very short shackles put on him and he then told the Captain and Dr. Jennings that he was going to tell you the first chance that he had been whipped for talking to you. Then he was taken to the shop again to have the chain lengthened, and while this was being done he had a fit. He is subject to such spells. The chains were cut off him and he was taken to the hospital, where he now is. I understand he is in serious condition.

Later: To still further punish this poor, ignorant, defenseless negro, Dr. Jennings applied a strong electric battery to him and tortured him for more than a half hour. His screams and cries and piteous appeals for mercy could be heard all over the Penitentiary grounds."

The Governor made report of the matter to the Senate and House of Representatives, then in session, without giving the name of this prisoner. The Senate ordered an investigation. Next day the



Governor appeared before the committee, presented the letter and gave to this man a parole, in order that he might be able to freely make such statements to the committee as he saw fit, and so that he would not have to return to the Penitentiary, as the Governor felt, if he returned there, he would receive rash treatment for having written this letter.

He has served seven months of a fifteen months sentence for housebreaking and larceny; is a one-armed ex-telegraph operator, and is a widower with two small children.

Upon these conditions, he was paroled, during good behavior, February 26, 1913.

NORMAN, BEN (white): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Newberry county, of riot and assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"23.

Columbia, S. C., July 4, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Ben Norman, Newberry county, convicted of riot and assault and battery with intent to kill, sentenced three years, February 29, 1912.

Upon the numerously signed petition from the citizens of the community in which the alleged crime was committed, we recommend parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form. Parole dated July 8, 1913.

OLIVER, WILLIAM (colored): Convicted at the February, 1900, term of Court for Anderson county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented in which it was shown that the defendant was convicted at the February, 1900, term of Court for Anderson county, before Judge Watts and Solicitor M. F. Ansel. The petition is accompanied by a letter from the Hon. J. Belton Watson, of Anderson, S. C., in which he says he "knew William Oliver to be an industrious negro and a good servant, and that the shooting took place about twelve or one o'clock at night, and that it was at a house on his place, not over 350 yards from his dwelling." He further states that "from the testimony produced, he was satisfied that there was no malice in the matter; that it was more carelessness than anything else."

Also, letter from the mother of the boy who was killed, in which she states that "my son and William Oliver were good friends and I do not believe, and never have believed, that the killing was malicious."

The petition is signed by Sheriff Joe M. H. Ashley, Col. C. E. Tolly, A. H. Dagnall, Esq., K. P. Smith, Esq., Representative J. A. Hall, Clerk of Court James N. Pearman, Col. J. J. Fretwell, and many other prominent and reputable citizens of the city and county of Anderson.

And, still another petition, signed by former Supervisor B. J. Spearman, and other citizens of the county of Anderson, and the following endorsement from the Board of Pardons:

"Columbia, S. C., July 6, 1912.

Under the showing made, we recommend a parole during good behavior.

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
R. MAYS CLEVELAND,

Board of Pardons."

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, the petitions presented, and the further fact that the defendant has served nearly fourteen years, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 31, 1913.

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O'SHIELDS, VIRGIL (white): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of larceny of live stock, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works of Spartanburg county and to pay a fine of \$1.

Petition was presented in which it is stated the defendant "plead guilty to riding a horse belonging to Will Lancaster away and keeping it away for one day and two nights. The Court gave the defendant one year for larceny of live stock and he has been on the chain gang since January, 1913, and we believe that the defendant has been sufficiently punished and therefore beg that your Excellency parole him during his good behavior."

This petition is signed by Hon. C. C. Wyche, Representative from Spartanburg county; Register Mesne Conveyance T. R. Trimmier, Treasurer W. L. Epps, Col. B. G. Landrum, Hon. Sam J. Nicholls, Clerk of Court Bennett, and many other good citizens of the town and county of Spartanburg.

Upon the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant has served about half of the sentence imposed, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 26, 1913.

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PAGE, JOHN L. (white): Convicted at the November, 1895, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented shows that this man was convicted and sentenced to the State Penitentiary by Judge Joseph H. Earle on the 4th day of November, 1895, for murder, for which he and Fannie Carson and Ed Green were convicted.

It seems that at the time of the murder a great deal of excitement was created throughout the county of Spartanburg, and the three persons mentioned were convicted, but, for some reason, they were not given the extreme penalty of the law. Some time ago, his Excellency, Governor Ansel, pardoned the woman in the case—the head-devil and she-devil of the transaction, who, in my opinion, if she was guilty, should have been put to death, and if she was not guilty, she should not have been convicted, and when Governor Ansel saw fit to pardon her, it seems to me that the three were so closely linked together that he should have also faced public opinion and pardoned the other two as a matter of right and justice.

Now comes 407 good, substantial people of the county of Spartanburg, including Judge Thomas S. Sease, ex-Mayor John F. Floyd, Dr. J. F. Jefferies, former Clerk of Court, now Register Mesne Conveyance, T. R. Trimmier; Sheriff W. J. White, Probate Judge J. J. Burnett, County Treasurer C. M. Earle, Auditor W. G.



S. O'Shields, present Clerk of Court N. L. Bennett, the Hon. Ralph K. Carson, president of the State Bar Association; Judge George W. Nicholss, the father of Sam; Hon. S. T. McCravey, and many other of the prominent and best people of Spartanburg county, and by their petition say:

"We, the undersigned, citizens of Spartanburg county, believing that John L. Page, who was convicted with Mrs. Fannie Carson and Green sixteen years ago for the murder of Van Carson, has suffered sufficiently for the act, and believing from what we heard that Page, who is a weak-minded man, was led into the act by Green when said Page was under the influence of whiskey, respectfully ask that your Excellency do see fit to pardon said Page."

In addition to this, a similar petition was presented, signed by the foreman and ten other members of the jury who tried this man, requesting that he be released. However, at the time of the filing of said petition, December, 1911, I did not think that he should yet be released. Now come some gentlemen from Spartanburg, including Col. B. G. Landrum, Representative C. C. Wyche, and others, and renew this application on behalf of this man, who has now served eighteen years of the sentence imposed upon him. Judge Earle, who tried the case, is dead; the papers cannot, therefore, be referred to him. Col. Osborne L. Schumpert, the then Solicitor, has also passed into the Great Beyond.

In view of the fact that Page has served eighteen years, has made a good prisoner, and the very strong and unusually large petition presented in his behalf, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not use any intoxicating beverages except upon the advice and prescription of a physician. Parole dated April 26, 1913.

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PARKER, ALONZO (colored): Convicted at the January, 1908, term of Court for Laurens county, of assault and battery, with intent to kill, and carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works.

A letter was filed from Mr. G. W. Long, in which he states that the prosecutor was a very mean negro, and was run out of Laurens county for stealing. Also, a letter from Mr. J. M. Pearce, in which he states that the defendant lived on his mother's plantation for eighteen years, and that he has never known him to be in any trouble before; that he was always industrious and obedient, and

particularly polite to white people. Also, a letter from Col. J. H. Wharton as to his reputation.

In addition to the above, petition was submitted, signed by every white man in Waterloo, and by many of the best ladies of the neighborhood.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 3, 1913.

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PARRIS, RAIMON (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Newberry county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

I received the following letter from this defendant:

"Columbia, S. C., 12-11-13.

Dear Sir, Gov.

Sir, Governor, Cole. L. Blease: I am addressing you of my trouble, asking you to please help me out of my downfall this summer. I have been the trusty water-boy and know I have got your picture and I have got it on my coat and I went up to your mansion a few days ago and when I got back in the yard they have been dogging after me ever since. Captain and Supt. D. J., they put a large pair of chains around my legs and they have got me locked up in a cold sell and Gov. I have not given them any cause to do so and they are starving me out on bread and water. I can't get warm night, and either day. Lord, Gov. I have not done anything to make them punish me about. They got mad with me about wearing one of your badges with your picture on it and I am unable to help myself any way, so will you do. Send for me and I will tell you all about it. They chain me on the 10th of Dec. and lock me up about wearing one of your badges. I was sentenced in March Court, the 17 day of March and sentence 12 months in Penitentiary.

(Signed) RAIMON PARRIS."

On receipt of this communication, I had this boy brought to my office, and read him this letter and asked him if the statements therein contained were true. He said they were, and, in addition, made the following statement:

"Captain Sondley said, 'By God, I reckon you are the cause of this crowd standing around here.' I said, 'No, sir; Captain, I am not the cause of it; I am doing the work you put me to do.' He said, 'By God, shut up and get on down stairs.' He taken me out to the

police and put a pair of shackles on me and lock me up. They put me in a cell on the 10th of December, and I asked them yesterday morning to take me out; that I was cramped up so that I could hardly walk, but he (Captain Sondley) said, 'By God, you will get out when I turn you out.' I can prove that I have not eat anything they sent me; I have a brother down there on the yard and he would bring me something to eat, or I would have perished. I have not done anything at all to cause this trouble. They have been picking at me for the last two weeks, one or two of the guards pick at me, by the name of Jackson."

This statement was made in the presence of Sergeant Pressley and other gentlemen who were in the Governor's office.

Upon this letter and the statement, the defendant having served nine months of a twelve-month sentence, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 16, 1913.

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PATRICK, HENRY (white): Convicted at the November, 1903, term of Court for Marlboro county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Mr. A. J. Matheson, of Bennettsville, S. C., in person, in which it is stated that the defendant was indicted for murder and tried at the November term of Court, 1903, and that he has, therefore, served ten years imprisonment; that the unnaturalness of such a crime would seem to indicate that it must have been accidental, and request that the defendant be given another chance in life. This petition is signed by Z. T. Pearson, Sam J. Pearson, L. J. Breeden, Rev. B. F. McLendon, former Senator T. I. Rogers, ex-Judge C. P. Townsend, ex-Clerk of Court Drake, J. B. Irby, Postmaster McLaurin, Dr. H. S. Hair, County Supervisor M. E. Coward, T. B. Drake, several of the jurors who served at the trial, and more than two hundred and fifty of the good, reputable citizens of the county of Marlboro.

Taking into consideration the fact that this man has served ten years, and the peculiar circumstances set out in the petition in reference to the death of his wife, and the prominence of those who have signed the petition, the defendant has been granted a parole upon the condition that if he should again take another drink of intoxicating liquors, or if he should not be of good behavior, he shall be



returned to the State Penitentiary to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated December 31, 1913.

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PATTERSON, EDDIE (colored): Convicted at the November, 1895, term of Court for Georgetown county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

At the time of his conviction, this defendant was a boy between fifteen and sixteen years of age, and was tried for killing another negro.

Having talked with him personally, and taking into consideration his youth and the condition of his health, I feel that he has been sufficiently punished. He was therefore granted a parole, during good behavior, February 3, 1913.

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PATTON, ALEXANDER (colored): Convicted at the April, 1905, term of Court for York county, of arson, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Dr. T. R. Carothers, of Rock Hill, S. C., and is signed by some of the jurors who tried the case; by W. J. Miller, the prosecutor, and by his son, Dr. J. R. Miller. Also signed by Messrs. Sanders, Hutchinson and Haile, members of the House of Representatives from York county; W. B. Byers, Max G. Bryant, and others.

In view of the petition presented, the fact that the defendant has served eight years and nearly three months of a ten-year sentence, and has made a good prisoner, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 7, 1913.

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PEARMAN, CHARLES N. (white): Convicted at the September, 1911, term of Court for Abbeville county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Abbeville county.

Petition was presented, signed by ten of the jurors who tried the case, including the foreman—the other two jurors were not seen—and by a very large number of the citizens of the community where the offense occurred, including many ladies; also, by a large number of the residents of the county of Abbeville.

In addition, transcript of the testimony was presented, and, while it appeared to me that the verdict of manslaughter possibly was just, still the defendant was entitled to the lightest sentence under the law; and, he having served one and a half years, and it coming within my own knowledge that he has a wife and several little children who are actually suffering for the want of the necessities of life, on account of the fact that they are deprived of their father's labor, I deem it advisable to parole the said defendant, in order that he may provide for his wife and children. He was, therefore, granted a parole, during good behavior, on March 3, 1913.

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PEIGLER, WALLACE (white); PEIGLER, RUBEN (white): Both convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Newberry county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to three years, each, imprisonment upon the public works of Newberry county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in these cases were presented by Col. James G. Long, of Union, S. C., in which it is stated: "That Wallace Peigler and Ruben Peigler, formerly of this county (Union), were tried at the November term, 1912, of the Court of Sessions for Newberry county, on a charge of assault and battery, and sentenced to serve three years on the chain gang or in the Penitentiary. That these boys are nineteen and twenty years of age, respectively, and we respectfully submit that this sentence, for their first offense, is excessive. Wherefore, we respectfully petition your Excellency to examine the record herein, and to exercise your clemency in the pardon or parole of these two unfortunate boys."

This petition is signed by Col. James G. Long, Jr., Senator Macbeth Young, Dr. J. G. Goings, and by about sixty-five of the other good citizens of Union county. Also, by C. E. Eison, P. B. Odell, T. E. Eison, B. S. Hardy, S. A. Jeter, F. W. Fant, Magistrate R. M. Aughtry, and many other citizens of Newberry county living in the vicinity where the crime was committed.

The defendants having served a year of the sentence imposed upon them, and in view of the petition presented, they were granted paroles, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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PENDARVIS, JOHN W. (white): Convicted at the April, 1912, term of Court for Dorchester county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to nine years imprisonment upon the public works of Dorchester county, or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by the Honorable Joseph Murray, Member of the House of Representatives from Dorchester county, signed by several members of the jury who tried the case, in which they request that executive clemency be extended the defendant.

Accompanying the petition is a letter from County Treasurer of Dorchester county, Hon. J. M. Whetsell, which is as follows:

"St. George, S. C., November 7, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Gov. Blease: I have been informed by Mr. M. S. Connor, of this place, that he has filed with you a petition for a pardon for John W. Pendarvis, a young white man, who is serving a nine-year sentence upon the chain gang of this county for the killing of one Charles C. Wimberly. Pendarvis was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to nine years servitude. He has served about two years of that sentence and has made a good prisoner and behaved himself in a good manner. Young Pendarvis, as will be seen by the testimony presented to you, was being pursued by the deceased at the time of the killing, with the deceased having in his hand an open knife and trying to kill him, the said Pendarvis. They were both young white men. The parents of this young man are old people and need the help of this young man on the humble farm where they live and are trying to make a living. These old folks have been so unfortunate as to lose a daughter who had two small children, unable to work, and the old folks have to support and try to educate these, and it is really more than they can do without the aid of the labor of this young man. These are poor people, and in my humble opinion are entitled to have some clemency shown this young man, their son. Young Pendarvis is the only white man on the chain gang in this county, the said gang being made up altogether with negroes, and in view of all of these conditions I ask as a special favor that you look into this matter carefully, and I beg you to extend to this young man, before the winter sets in with its coldest weather, some clemency, and I assure you that you will make the heart of an aged mother glad to be able to get her son back to her bosom. I will personally appreciate what you may see fit, in your wise judgment, to do for this young man, and I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. M. WHETSELL."



Another petition was presented, signed by Special Judge J. Otie Reid, Representative Murray, former Senator John D. Bivens, Cyrus Mims, Judge M. S. Connor, County Treasurer J. M. Whetsell, Judge of Probate T. R. Tighe, and by a very large number of the other citizens of the county of Dorchester.

Upon the petitions presented, the circumstances surrounding the case, and the fact that the defendant has served nearly two years, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

PERRY, OTIS (colored): Convicted at the October, 1906, term of Court for Lancaster county, of assault with intent to ravish, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was by Hon. T. J. Strait, Senator from Lancaster county. The petition is signed by the foreman and eight of the other jurors who tried the case; the Probate Judge, County Supervisor, Clerk of Court, Auditor, Treasurer, County Commissioners and Judge W. P. Caskey, of Lancaster. Also, by Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives J. S. Wilson, Senator Strait, and by a large number of the other reputable white citizens of the county of Lancaster.

In addition to the petition, affidavits were submitted as to the proof in the case—one being from the negro prosecutrix, in which she states: "He did not hurt me in any way, and said nothing except catch hold of my right hand and asked me to go to the woods with him, and he has been fully punished for his misconduct towards me." In addition to this, I have my doubts, as I have often expressed them, that one negro has ever attempted to rape or did rape another negro.

In view of the petitions, affidavits, etc., submitted, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 3, 1913.

PERRY, TOM (colored): Convicted at the March, 1912, term of Court for Bamberg county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to two years and six months imprisonment upon the public works:

The Board of Pardons, on July 4, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"26.

Columbia, S. C., July 4, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Tom Perry, Bamberg county, convicted of housebreaking and larceny, sentenced two years and six months, March 6, 1912.

This petitioner was only eighteen years of age and half of his sentence has been served. We would like to see him given another opportunity and for that purpose recommend parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;  
D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons."

In writing of this case, Hon. Robert E. Copes, the trial Judge, states:

"In this case, I think the ends of justice have been met and the law vindicated; it is, therefore, respectfully recommended that the defendant be granted clemency.

(Signed) ROBT. E. COPES,

Orangeburg, S. C., June 16, 1913.

Trial Judge."

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Judge Copes, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form, and that he do not "shoot craps." Parole dated July 8, 1913.

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PETERSON, D., or TOMMIE (colored): Convicted at the June, 1909, term of Court for Lee county, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works of Lee county, the sentence of the Court being as follows:

"The judgment of the Court is: That you, Tommy Peterson, be confined at hard labor six months; but as you have already been punished by an inferior Court for the same offense, it is ordered that this judgment shall be suspended until another true bill for violation of the dispensary law or for sale of liquor contrary to law, shall be found against you in any county of the State, and upon the finding of such bill the Sheriff shall take you in custody to execute this judgment."

The petition in this case was presented by Hon. B. Frank Kelley, of Bishopville, S. C., in which it is stated: "So far as we are

informed, this negro boy was not violating the dispensary law or prohibition law, but on or about the 15th day of May, 1913, he was sent by a white man in Bishopville to the home of Sam Davis, another negro, to purchase a quart of whiskey, which he did, not intending to sell same, and for which offense he was indicted, and true bill was found against him, the negro being sent up to Court, as he thought, merely as a witness for the State against Sam Davis, who sold him the quart of whiskey, as we believe that this boy did not sell any whiskey to the white man and should not be punished for merely purchasing for a white man, and your petitioners will ever pray."

This petition is signed by W. L. Parrott, W. T. Bell, J. Ed Stuckey, W. H. Stuckey, J. E. Barfield, R. T. Hyatt, J. P. Kilgore, H. S. Gilbert, H. H. Watkins, Magistrate; H. K. Pate, W. R. Outlaw, R. H. Baker, W. S. James, B. F. Caughman, J. B. Kelley, and others.

In view of the petition presented, the fact that this defendant has served five months of a six months sentence, and in view of the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the case of the State against Fant, in which it was held that a party purchasing liquor for another was the agent of the buyer and not of the seller, and therefore not guilty of violation of the dispensary law, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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PETTY, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Cherokee county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Cherokee county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The following letter and petition, submitted in this case, are self-explanatory.

"Gaffney, S. C., October 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: You will find enclosed petition for one Henry Petty, who was convicted, as petition shows. The prosecutor of this negro has headed the petition; he and his wife; all the neighbors of Dr. J. G. Pittman have signed this petition; they are satisfied the negro has suffered sufficiently for what he did. Dr. Pittman claims the negro was doped at the time he went in his house. What the negro took did not amount to anything much. He was convicted at



the June term of Court, in 1912; he has now served one year and one-fourth, and I, for one, think he has been duly punished for this little frivolous offense, and if you can see your way clear to parole him, I, as the petitioner herein, will think you have done a just deed. I have known this negro all my life, and I think this is the first trouble he was ever in. If there is anything more you want to know about this, I will be pleased to give you all the information I can.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) L. T. VINESETT."

"South Carolina, Cherokee County.

Whereas, Henry Petty, at the June term of Court for Cherokee county, 1912, was sentenced to the county chain gang for five years for burglary and larceny; and, whereas, the prosecutor is willing for him to be pardoned or paroled; now, we, citizens of Cherokee county, do respectfully petition Honorable Cole. Blease, Governor, to pardon or parole the said Henry Petty.

(Signed) MRS. J. G. PITTMAN,  
JNO. G. PITTMAN, M. D.,  
DR. J. F. GARRETT,  
MRS. J. F. GARRETT,  
MRS. A. B. GAINES,  
A. B. GAINES,  
N. LIPSCOMB,  
MRS. N. LIPSCOMB,  
MRS. J. N. NESBITT,  
J. C. RATCLIFF,  
W. K. SMITH,  
S. B. CRAWLEY,  
R. E. SKINNER,  
MRS. J. M. DARWIN,  
A. S. LIPSCOMB,  
MRS. A. S. LIPSCOMB,  
A. C. PRIDEMORE,  
MRS. A. C. PRIDEMORE,  
T. B. CLARKSON,  
MRS. T. B. CLARKSON,  
W. C. VINESETT,  
J. G. HAYES,  
DR. J. N. NESBITT,  
MRS. J. C. RATCLIFF,

MRS. S. B. CRAWLEY,  
MRS. R. E. SKINNER,  
J. M. DARWIN."

Upon this showing, the defendant has been paroled, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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POOLE, E. F. (white) : Convicted at the Fall, 1909, term of Court for Greenville county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary, without the alternative of a fine.

The petition presented states that this defendant was tried in his absence; that a sealed verdict was rendered, which was recently opened by the Clerk of Court, and the defendant committed to the chain gang to serve said sentence. The petition also states that the defendant is in failing health.

Solicitor Bonham and Sheriff Rector made the following recommendations in this case:

"Owing to the fact that this is a rather heavy sentence, and that about half of it has been served, I recommend that the sentence be commuted, and that the prisoner be paroled, upon the payment of a fine of \$100, and on the condition that he leave the Tenth Circuit.

(Signed) P. A. BONHAM,  
Solicitor 10th Circuit."

"I recommend executive clemency to the extent of, and upon the conditions as set forth, in the foregoing recommendation of Solicitor Bonham.

(Signed) HENDRIX RECTOR, S. G. C.  
May 30, 1913."

Upon the above recommendations, and the petition presented, the defendant having served about half of the sentence imposed, was granted a parole upon the condition that he pay to the Clerk of Court for Greenville county, South Carolina, the sum of fifty (\$50) dollars; and, upon the further condition of his good behavior; and, the further condition that he shall abstain entirely from the use of alcoholic liquors or beverages; and, upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated June 4, 1913.

POWERS, TOM (colored): Convicted at the June, 1913, term of Court for Greenwood county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature and carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to eighteen months upon the public works of Greenwood county.

Petition was presented, signed by many citizens of the town of Greenwood, including Wells Riley, W. B. Clark, J. W. McCaslin, C. F. Simmons, John F. Wideman, Superintendent of Education; T. W. McMillan, Sheriff; Hon. F. S. Evans, D. A. G. Ouzts, J. R. Tarrant, W. H. Mays, J. P. and J. R. Abney, G. E. Watson, C. C. Featherstone, J. W. Sproles, H. E. Gyles, D. T. Major, John Lyon, W. G. Calhoun, Walter T. Jones, Mayor Kenneth Baker, J. R. Lavell, Geo. C. Hodges, W. H. Yeldell, Jr., and three hundred and ninety-seven other citizens of the town of Greenwood, in which they ask that the defendant's sentence be commuted by allowing him to pay a reasonable fine.

I also have presented strong personal letter from Mr. Bob O. Mays, in behalf of the negro, and a very strong letter from Mr. W. A. Riley, in which he says: "Tom Powers is a negro barber of the best class. He has run the barber shop in the hotel for many years, and I have had occasion to observe his conduct almost daily during the time. He is a negro of unusually good character and bears a splendid reputation. Unfortunately, Tom got to fooling with a negro wench of the lower type, and shot her accidentally, last fall, while scuffling over a pistol. Tom has a delicate wife and two small children, who will have to be supported and it will be a great hardship on them for Tom to be away from them. Tom and his father have already paid out \$80 for hospital bills and doctor's bills for the woman, and in addition to this, furnished her everything she needed to eat, and wood for fire, during last fall and winter, after she got out of the hospital. She is now just as well as ever. You will notice that she testified that it was purely accidental."

I also have a strong letter of endorsement from the Rev. C. W. Creighton, in which he states: "I have looked into this case. The prosecutrix testified that she was accidentally shot."

In view of the very strong petition, personal letters and various endorsements, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he abstain from the use of intoxicating beverages, as I believe this to be better and will make him a better citizen than if he was permitted to pay a small fine, such as asked for by the petitioners. Parole dated September 16, 1913.



PRIVERT, S. CHESTER (colored): Convicted before Magistrate U. W. Jefcoat, at Swansea, S. C., September 6, 1913, of petit larceny, and sentenced to thirty days upon the public works of Lexington county.

The following petition was presented:

"Lexington, S. C., September 13, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina,  
Columbia, S. C.:

We, the undersigned citizens of Lexington county, respectfully ask that you issue a pardon or parole to S. Chester Privert, a negro, who is now serving a thirty days sentence on the Lexington county chain gang, for having been accused of taking a pistol belonging to another negro. Privert has served six days of the sentence. He is suffering from a loathsome disease, and is in no condition to work, and is, therefore, not only an expense to the county, but it is dangerous to have him among the other prisoners.

(Signed) W. H. SHARPE, Senator Lex. County;  
H. L. HARMON,  
C. E. CORLEY, Supervisor Lex. Co.;  
G. W. DRAFTS, J. P. L. C.;  
T. L. HARMON,  
SIM J. MILLER, Sheriff;  
J. BROOKS WINGARD,  
G. A. GOODWIN,  
FRANK W. SHEALY, Clerk of Court;  
W. D. DENT, County Auditor;  
D. R. HALTIWANGER, Dep. Clerk;  
E. G. DREHER,  
A. C. SAWYER,  
E. P. DERRICK, M. D.,  
W. J. McCARTHA."

Upon the petition presented, and the physical condition of the defendant, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, September 13, 1913.

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PYE, R. W. (white): Convicted at the July, 1912, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of forgery, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary, and to pay a fine of \$1.

The Board of Pardons, under date of May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"91. Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of R. W. Pye; Spartanburg county; convicted of forgery; sentenced one year and fined \$1; July, 1912.

This prisoner has served half of his sentence. The petition is signed by J. F. Floyd, Sam J. Nicholls, C. C. Wyche and Frank Hodges, and others. Judge Sease recommends clemency, and we, therefore, recommend that the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons."

Upon the recommendation above quoted, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, May 3, 1913.

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QUINN, JNO. M., *alias* FRED. W. POOLE (white): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Richland county, of house-breaking and larceny, two cases, and sentenced to one year imprisonment in each case; total of two years, in the State Penitentiary.

The petition was presented by Hon. J. T. Miller, member of the House of Representatives from Richland county, setting forth the fact that this defendant is a young white boy, and that he has served now six months of his sentence. It seems from the facts presented, that he was under the influence of whiskey at the time the offense was committed. The petition is signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. M. L. Smith; Senator John H. Clifton, Senator Louis Appelt, Senator W. S. Hall, Representatives Lumpkins, Youmans, Miller, Rembert, of the Richland County Delegation; Representatives Warner, Goodwin, Malpass, and others; also by a large number of the citizens of Columbia, including the Rev. J. M. Pike, owner of the office of *The Way of Faith*, which office the defendant was accused of breaking into; and, as he was following the way of faith, or at least attempting to enter into the way of faith,—being under the influence of liquor, but his mind running in the channel of the way of faith, I have thought fit to give him the opportunity to go forth and make a man of himself, and, therefore, granted him a parole.

The petition is also signed by Sylvan Brothers, Alfred Wallace, Jr., Porter McMaster, C. C. Stanley, A. M. Deal, P. H. Corley, and others.

Upon this showing, a parole was issued the defendant, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he refrain from the use of alcoholic liquors and from visiting bawdy houses. Parole dated March 12, 1913.

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RADCLIFFE, LOUIS (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Richland county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, under date of April 29th, made the following recommendation:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* case of Louis Radcliffe; Richland; grand larceny; two years; June 6, 1912.

This petition came to us with the favorable endorsement of Solicitor Cobb, and is signed by many good citizens of Columbia, including B. P. McMaster, John A. Willis, D. H. Goble, B. L. Caughman, William H. Gaston, T. B. Roach, ex-Sheriff Coleman, ex-Mayor Sloan, Postmaster Huggins, Clerk of Court Walker, members of the House, A. M. Lumpkin, R. H. Welch, City Councilmen Steiglitz and Blalock, City Auditor Wilson, Clerk and Treasurer Cooper, and others. Under this showing, we recommend parole, during good behavior.

Your respectfully,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary.

Board of Pardons."

In view of this recommendation, and the prominence of the gentlemen signing the petition, a parole was granted to the defendant on May 3, 1913.

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RAVEN, WILL (white): Convicted at the June, 1911, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$2, or serve four months on the public works or in the State Penitentiary.



The following letter was received from Hon. Ralph K. Carson, of Spartanburg, S. C., which sets out in full this case:

"Spartanburg, S. C., March 7, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: About twelve months ago I filed a petition with you for a pardon or commutation of the sentence of Will Raven. This was a case in which Will Raven was found in a stillhouse, ready to make whiskey, everything necessary on hand, but no whiskey made. The Supreme Court divided on the question as to whether or not an attempt to make whiskey was a violation of the statutes. Justices Hydrick and Fraser held that it was not a violation until some compound had been made which would produce intoxication. The Chief Justice and Justice Woods took the opposite view. Consequently the judgment of the lower Court was affirmed. Judge Watts was disqualified.

I asked for commutation upon the ground that Will Raven, under the decision of the Supreme Court, was only half guilty, and that the sentence should be split.

Raven, pending the delay for executive clemency, was out on bond.

It seems that a still was found in the neighborhood of Raven's house with an old path leading from his house to the distillery. Raven has always assured me that he had nothing to do with this, as he had moved to that point only a few days before; this was just across the line; he was found at home; carried to Asheville and tried without an opportunity of getting his witnesses or employing counsel; and the Constable testified to the fact that he had within the last twelve months been convicted in the U. S. Court and State Court, and Judge Boyd gave him a sentence of twelve months in the Federal Prison in Atlanta, which sentence he has just completed. He came at once to Spartanburg, and was taken into custody by the Sheriff, or, rather, he came to the jail of his own volition at the request of his bondsmen.

I am satisfied, from what I have heard of the case in Asheville, that the two convictions here, with the old path, leading from Raven's house to the distillery, was about all the testimony in the case. Raven was convicted upon his past record. You know that deputy marshals are very handy with their oaths in such cases, and they made the most of what had happened in South Carolina.

To an unprejudiced mind, it would seem that Raven has been fully punished, and that he, under the circumstances, is a fit subject for executive clemency. I know nothing personally of what transpired in Asheville, but believe that the information which I have given you is a true statement of the facts.

Will Raven should never have been convicted of the violation of the statutes in this State, in the case for which he is now serving a sentence, and if you will read the case in 90 or 91 S. C., as a lawyer, I think that you will agree with me. I have given you the facts in the case, and I trust that you will see your way clear to relieve this long-suffering individual. He has been taught a lesson and has no doubt learned, and he should be given an opportunity of redeeming himself. If Raven was paroled, during good behavior, this might be better than a pardon, as the sentence hanging over him would act as a deterrent.

Mrs. Raven was in my office today; said that she had been to Columbia to see you, but was unable to get an interview. She is an ignorant woman, and I have no doubt that she was told that you were busy in your private office, and would be for some time, and that she would have to wait her turn. I know that you are, and pride yourself upon uniform courtesy to women, no matter how humble, and told Mrs. Raven that there must have been some mistake; that if she had only waited, I felt sure you would have seen her.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) RALPH K. CARSON."

Along with this letter is a petition signed by about three hundred citizens of Spartanburg county, in which it is asked that the defendant be paroled, setting out as a reason that he has already served a sentence of one year in the Federal Prison in Atlanta for the same offense.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 8, 1913.

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RICHARDSON, DAVE: Convicted at the Summer, 1910, term of Court for Richland county, of larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Judge E. McC. Clarkson, of Columbia, S. C., in which it is stated that the value of the goods were only \$46.75. The following letter from Mr. James S. Verner, Recorder of the city of Columbia, was submitted with the petition:

"Columbia, S. C., March, 1913.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease.

Dear Sir: At the request of Mr. E. McC. Clarkson, I write to say that I had occasion to appear at the trial of Dave Richardson as attorney for the defense. That he was charged with carbreaking and larceny, the main and only material evidence against him was the possession of some goods, said to have come out of a car on the Southern Railway.

The jury found him guilty of 'larceny' of the goods, but not 'car-breaking,' as appears by the record.

If you will pardon me for saying so, I think that two and a half years is sufficient punishment to meet the ends of justice.

I have the honor to be,

Yours very respectfully,

March 5, 1913.

(Signed) JAMES S. VERNER."

Also, the following communication from Supervisor Patterson, of Richland county:

"Columbia, S. C., March 5, 1913.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease.

Dear Sir: I am writing to you in behalf of one Dave Richardson, who is on the chain gang in Lexington county.

I am informed by Mr. Mack, captain of the gang in that county, that the said Dave Richardson has been always obedient to orders while on the gang, and has worked hard and faithfully, and never has given any trouble.

I would respectfully ask your Excellency to extend clemency to him and pardon or parole him, as you may think best.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) A. PATTERSON, JR.,

Supervisor Richland County."

The defendant having served two years and nine months of a five-year sentence, and in view of the above showing, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, March 5, 1913.

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RICHARDSON, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of statutory burglary, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Greenville county.

The following petition was presented in behalf of this defendant:



"Petition:

To the Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor:

We beg leave to petition your Excellency to pardon one Henry Richardson, upon the following ground:

The defendant is an old negro, eighty-five years old, and plead guilty at the September term of Court, for Greenville county, to statutory burglary, and was sentenced to five years, the minimum sentence to be imposed. The offense consisted of the breaking and entering a chicken coop, within the curtilage of a dwelling house. We do not believe that the old negro is such a felon as the statute contemplated punishing. He probably had no more serious wrong in mind than the appropriation of a chicken. He is too old to do any work, and is a burden to the county, and probably will not live much longer if kept in confinement. We are informed that the prosecutor in the case does not oppose this petition. We, therefore, request that you pardon or parole the said Henry Richardson.

(Signed) HENDRIX RECTOR, S. G. C.;

H. F. RICE,

Judge 2d Jud. Circuit, S. C.;

P. A. BONHAM,

Solicitor 10th Circuit.

The above deft. was tried before me. H. F. R.

JNO. M. CURETON, C. C. C. P. & G. S."

Upon the petition above quoted, and in view of the age of the defendant, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, December 11, 1913.

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RICE, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the September, 1911, term of Court for Union county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented states that it appears that this negro is losing his mind, and that he has served a large portion of the sentence imposed. The petition is signed by Mr. J. M. Greer, Sheriff James G. Long, Deputy Sheriff James G. Long, Jr., County Physician J. G. Goins, and other citizens of Union, many being of the neighborhood where the offense took place. Also, by eight of the jurors who tried the case.

The petition was presented by Hon. B. G. Wilburn, a member of the House of Representatives from Union county.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, February 22, 1913.

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RICE, WHITNER (colored): Convicted at the May, 1911, term of Court for Anderson county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. K. P. Smith, of Anderson, S. C.

Petition is signed by the foreman and eight other members of the jury who tried this case,—one of the jurors, Mr. J. C. Kay, having died about six months ago, his name, therefore, does not appear on the petition.

The petition is also signed by Col. V. B. Cheshire, J. Mack King, County Supervisor; J. M. Payne, Magistrate Sullivan, Magistrate Broadwell, J. R. Vandiver, P. K. McCulley, R. S. Ligon, W. H. Canfield, L. P. Smith, S. D. Brownlee, Representative J. A. Hall, J. S. Acker, Clerk County Board of Commissioners; J. S. Fowler, J. H. Craig, K. P. Smith, Col. C. E. Tolly, and two hundred and forty-five other citizens living in the county and city of Anderson.

Upon the petitions presented, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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RICHARDSON, CAROLINA (colored): Convicted at the April, 1899, term of Court for Richland county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by Hon. G. Duncan Bellinger, Judge of Probate for Richland county. The petition states that the trouble brought about the difficulty in which Meyers was killed, arose from the fact that Meyers was paying indecent attention to the wife of Richardson, and that on one occasion, and at the time of the homicide, Richardson found Meyers in bed with his (Richardson's) wife, and from this the trouble arose. Both parties were negroes.

This defendant has served about fourteen and a half years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary; has made a good prisoner; is failing in health,

Taking into consideration the facts surrounding this case; the long service of the defendant; his good behavior and failing health, I think he has been sufficiently punished for the crime he committed; therefore, a parole has been issued to him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

RICHARDSON, GARFIELD (colored): Convicted at the July, 1912, term of Court for Sumter county, of larceny of bicycle, and sentenced to one year imprisonment in the State Reformatory for Colored Youths (Penitentiary Farm).

The following petition was submitted:

"Sumter, S. C., March 7, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: There is a negro boy named Garfield Richardson, in the State Reformatory for negro boys, put there for stealing a bicycle from Mr. J. J. Epperson, eight or nine months ago.

We would like to have this boy paroled, as his mother really needs the wages that he could earn for a part of her support.

We, the undersigned, respectfully petition you to parole the above named negro:

(Signed) J. J. EPPERSON,  
J. R. MERCER,  
H. C. CUTTINO,  
C. E. JONES,  
J. I. BROGDON."

Upon this showing, the negro having served over eight months of a twelve months sentence, and the prosecutor heading the list, asking for mercy, a parole was granted the defendant on March 12, 1913, during good behavior.

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RISHER, DAN (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Bamberg county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation:

"76.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Dan Risher; Bamberg county; convicted of manslaughter; sentenced two years; March, 1913.

Mr. Jones A. Williams was heard in behalf of the petitioner. This is a very strong petition, signed by eight of the jury who tried him. Sheriff S. G. Ray, Magistrate H. G. Free and J. C. Copeland, Auditor Rowell, Treasurer Jennings, Senator Black, Mayor Smoak, Editor Rowell, Member of the Legislature Jacob A. Hunter, Hons. W. S. Bamberg, S. G. Mayfield and others. We also find a specially



strong letter recommending clemency from the Clerk of Court, C. B. Free, who heard the trial. Under the showing made, we recommend a full pardon.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Pardon Board."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not drink any alcoholic beverages of any kind, except upon the written prescription and advice of a physician.

Parole dated May 10, 1913.

ROACH, AUGUSTUS (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Anderson county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to serve three months upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$100. (Sealed sentence left with Clerk of Court.)

Petitions were presented in which it is stated that the defendant was convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Anderson county, of violating the dispensary law, "and a sealed sentence was delivered. This has just lately been opened, and Roach placed on the chain gang for three months. For the past year, since his conviction, he has been in this county, working about six months at the Orr Cotton Mills at Anderson, and for the past five months running a shoe shop in Williamston. Roach has never, to our knowledge, been prosecuted in the Courts before, and since living in Williamston, the past five months, has been an industrious, law-abiding citizen, trying to make an honest living for himself and wife and six children. The wife and children, the oldest of whom is about twelve years of age, and the youngest twin babies in their mother's arms, are in very destitute circumstances, and having no relatives in any way able to care for them, are in a pitiable condition. Therefore, we most urgently implore your Excellency to give a favorable consideration of this case."

The petitions are signed by twenty-nine citizens of the town of Belton, S. C., and eighty-five citizens of the town of Williamston, S. C., including many of the cotton mill boys.

The petition is also accompanied by the following communication from Hon. Oscar D. Gray, member of the House of Representatives from Anderson county:

"Williamsburg, S. C., May 19, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I have been solicited by a large number of citizens to write you this letter in regard to the petition sent to you today for the pardon or parole of Augustus Roach, now serving a three months sentence on the county chain gang for violation of the dispensary law. Everyone, with two exceptions, signed this petition to whom it was presented. Roach, since the sealed sentence was given, June, 1912, has been living in the county peaceably and working hard; in looking over the old papers in the courthouse, the Sheriff, or one of the officers, found the sentence and had it served; Roach was taken from his family, leaving them in a pitiable condition; his wife has six small children, the two youngest twin babies in her arms, and no kin able to support them at all. Roach was never known as a drinking man, and with a great many there was question of his guilt of ever selling the bottle for which he was convicted. I feel that there must have been question of this with the authorities or his sentence would have not have been laid over so long. The sentiment of the whole community here will approve your clemency in this case. I am sure of this fact or I would not write you this letter.

I am your friend,

(Signed) OSCAR D. GRAY."

Upon the petition presented, the personal letter of Representative Gray, and the facts set forth therein, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated May 22, 1913.

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ROBERSON, ROSA (colored): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Charleston county, of aggravated assault and battery, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$100.

The following communication was received from Mr. L. T. Lipscomb, of Charleston, S. C.:

"Charleston, S. C., October 2, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: I hate very much indeed to trouble you, with the matter I wish to place before you, but it is such that I feel you should know the facts in the case, to see that justice is done. I believe, when you know them, you will take pleasure in seeing that justice is done.

The facts are these: My cook, Rosa Robinson, who has been in my employ for over a year, recently, in coming to her work one morning, got into a little trouble with two other negroes. One of them struck her with a bottle, and knocked her down. While they both were on top of her, she got out a small penknife, which she used around the house, and cut them; one very slightly; the other only a little more. When the girl came to my home, Mrs. Lipscomb and myself, both saw that she had quite a knot on the side of her head, where she had been struck, and which had been bleeding. The two negroes, who jumped on her, and whom she cut, swore out a warrant before Magistrate O'Shaughnessy.

I sent around for the brother of the girl who was cut, and they both came to my home, and agreed to take \$2.50 to compromise the case, with \$1 to pay for the warrant. I told them to go up and tell the Magistrate to withdraw the warrant; he declined to let them do so. The girl stated that she would be prevented from using her hand for a few days, and this \$2.50 was to pay for her lost time. She was otherwise not injured.

I then called on Magistrate O'Shaughnessy, who at first said the case could not be dropped, but when I explained the condition of my servant, and that she was one of the best servants we had ever had, being absolutely trustworthy and reliable, he then stated to have her come up to see him, and he would arrange the matter all right. I then went by the second time, after the girl had called to see him, and he stated to me, that the matter would be all right, and amounted to nothing; to send her up on Monday morning and let her swear out a warrant for the other two. Much to my surprise, I was called on at my office, and told by the girl's mother that Mr. O'Shaughnessy had sent her to jail, under a \$300 bond. I went around to his office, but was not able to see him, and expressed my indignation to his Constable, who had stated, along with Mr. O'Shaughnessy, that there was nothing against the girl. I then stated to him that I would go on her bond, and had a young attorney, a friend of mine, to go and arrange it; then Mr. O'Shaughnessy



stated the bond would be \$500. Then, when I stated I would give this, he refused to accept my bond for \$500, or even a certified check for this amount. I then tendered two other bondsmen, who were worth, one about \$10,000—the other \$75,000 to \$100,000, both of whom he declined to take. I then stated to him that I proposed to take the matter up with you; that I knew you would not stand for crookedness in office. This seemed to frighten him considerably, and he then agreed with the girl's mother, for his negro friend, C. M. English, to go on her bond, and her mother to pay \$15, which I have reason to believe, although I cannot prove it, was divided between himself, his Constable and English.

I presume you are aware that Mr. O'Shaughnessy has been presented once already to the grand jury for practices of this kind.

This girl was tried in her absence, while I was out of the city, and was not able to appear as a witness in her favor, and was sentenced to two years. However, my young son succeeded in getting an attorney here to appear for her, and he succeeded in getting her a second trial, at which she was again convicted, and given one year.

Now, Governor, I am sure this girl did not start the trouble, and if I had not threatened to report Magistrate O'Shaughnessy, I am confident that the \$15 would have sufficed, and the case would never have been called. He was simply afraid not to do it, and as a retaliation to me, for making this statement, he has done what he could, to have this girl convicted.

I will deeply appreciate, and will consider myself under lasting obligations to you, if you can see your way clear to parole the girl, on good behavior; if necessary, I will be glad to go on her bond. She is one of the best servants we have ever had—as above stated, she is thoroughly reliable and honest, and peaceable. She is a creature of very unfortunate circumstances.

I do not know how to go about a matter of this kind, and if you will allow me to present a petition, I will do so, and hold myself in readiness to return the favor, if I am ever able to do so.

With my kindest personal regards, and asking that you pardon me for writing at such length, which I have only done in the interest of an unfortunate, I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) T. J. LIPSCOMB."

Upon the above statement of facts, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, October 9, 1913.

ROBERTS, HENRY, *alias* HENRY JOHNSON (colored): Convicted at the June, 1911, term of Court for Dillon county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition is endorsed as follows by Judge Copes:

"I respectfully recommend that the sentence in this case be commuted to such time as the Governor deems proper.

(Signed) ROBT. E. COPES,

November 30, 1912.

Trial Judge."

The petition is signed by ex-Congressman James Norton, ex-Senator James Stackhouse, Postmaster G. E. Smith, County Auditor S. W. Smith, Clerk of Court D. F. Miles, County Superintendent of Education W. C. Rogers, Coroner Mace, County Treasurer J. D. Montgomery, Sheriff W. E. Blue, County Supervisor D. J. Martin, and many of the very best citizens of Marion county. Also, affidavits from different parties in reference to the alleged offense.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 3, 1913.

ROBERTS, PAUL, JR. (colored): Convicted at the December, 1911, term of Court for Barnwell county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment in the Penitentiary or upon the public works of Barnwell county.

Petition was presented by J. O. Patterson, Esq., of Barnwell, S. C., accompanied by a letter, in which he states that this boy was going through a plantation road and passed in front of a house; that the party killed came out with an axe, was drinking and halted Roberts and assaulted him with an axe, and that the Judge, taking all the facts into consideration, gave him seven years imprisonment.

The petition is signed by ten of the jurors who tried the case, as certified to by Clerk of Court Duncan, in which they request that the boy be granted a full pardon.

Another petition, signed by many of the best citizens of the neighborhood where the offense was committed, was also submitted.

Upon the showing made, the defenedant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

ROBINSON, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the October, 1898, term of Court for Aiken county, of burglary, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

On a visit to the State Reformatory, I found this defendant. When he was sent there, he was quite a young boy, and the foreman, Mr. Miller, and the Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Abney, were both present and heard his conversation with me. They both stated that he had made an excellent prisoner, and requested that I grant him a parole, in order to give him another chance in life.

Upon further investigation of the matter, and securing a copy of the Court record, which confirmed the statements, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, February 10, 1913.

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TOM ROGERS (white): Convicted at the October, 1909, term of Sessions Court for Aiken county, Judge Geo. W. Gage presiding, of manslaughter, and sentenced October 2, 1909, to seven years imprisonment at hard labor.

Petition in this case was presented in April, 1911. I did not regard the showing at that time as sufficient, and the petition was not granted. Petition now presented convinces me that clemency should be granted. It seems that defendant and another young man were fighting. After the defendant had been knocked down a couple times he cut the other boy with a small pocketknife; that the deceased was carried to the hospital, and it appears that for the want of proper medical attention he died.

The petition is signed by a number of the jurors who tried the case, and by a large number of the cotton mill people of the Horse Creek Valley. Petition is also signed by P. F. Henderson, E. P. Henderson, L. M. C. Oliveros, J. B. Salley, Capt. W. M. Jordan, Chas. A. Ashley, and other prominent citizens.

In view of the circumstances of the case, and also a letter from Col. Claude E. Sawyer, in which much information is set out in reference to the facts in the case, and in which Col. Sawyer states that this boy and his people are poor and very ignorant, and that he has no one to help him, and in view of the fact that the defendant has served so much of his sentence, and in view of the strong petitions and other facts, the defendant is paroled, February 22, 1913, during his good behavior.

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ROPER, SAMUEL D. S. (white): Convicted at the November, 1888, term of Court for Pickens county, of forgery, and sentenced to one year imprisonment in the State Penitentiary and to pay a fine of fifty dollars.



Petition in this case was presented by Mr. Alonzo M. Folger, of Easley, S. C.

Clerk of Court A. J. Boggs, of Pickens county, states :

"Roper's attorneys appealed this case to Supreme Court. Roper gave bond and as soon as he got out on bond he went to Georgia. The bondsmen have never had to pay the bond. I knew this case and he ought never to have been convicted. He has an old aunt who lives near Easley, in a helpless condition, and she wants him to come back and look after her while she lives. I hope you will pardon him. Come up and see us. Excuse haste.

Your friend,

(Signed) A. JOHN BOGGS, C. C. P."

The petition presented is signed by Clerk of Court Boggs, Treasurer Stewart, County Auditor Christopher, County Superintendent of Education Hallum, ex-Sheriff H. R. Richey, ex-Sheriff J. H. G. McDaniel, Sheriff Roark, ex-Sheriff J. C. Jennings, I. E. Robinson, the prosecutor; Magistrate J. M. Jameson, Mr. W. H. Hagood, the foreman of the grand jury that presented a true bill of indictment in the case, and other good, influential citizens of the county and town of Pickens.

Upon the showing made, and the fact that there seems to have been no effort made to enforce the sentence of the Court until this party returned to the bedside of his old feeble aunt, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 19, 1913.

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RUNDELL, JOHN (white): Convicted at the March, 1912, term of Court for Georgetown county, of larceny, and sentenced to three years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This defendant was convicted, along with one G. W. Enberg, both receiving the same sentence, of three years in the Penitentiary. A petition was submitted in behalf of Enberg, and upon the same being referred to the Judge and Solicitor, they made the following endorsements thereon:

"The statements in the petition are as true as to Rundell as to Enberg, and I think both deserve the same consideration. I recommend that they both be paroled and required to leave State.

(Signed) WALTER H. WELLS,  
Solicitor."

"I concur in what the Solicitor has stated above, and make the same recommendation.

(Signed) J. W. DeVORE,  
Circuit Judge."

Upon investigation, I find that Rundell, like Enberg, is unable to speak or understand the English language readily, and was not represented by counsel at the trial. Enberg was paroled on December 24, 1912, and, taking the same view as that entertained by the Judge and Solicitor, I feel that both deserve the same consideration; therefore, a parole was granted to Rundell, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he leave the State of South Carolina within twenty-four hours, and never return. Should he ever return, he shall be arrested and recommitted to serve the remainder of the sentence imposed, the parole being dated April 12, 1913.

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SANDERS, LEWIS (colored): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Greenwood county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The prisoner has been confined for the last ten years, and is now working in the hosiery mill.

Petition presented is signed by the twelve jurors who tried the case, and is endorsed by Judge T. S. Sease as follows:

"I recommend a parole in this case.

(Signed) T. S. SEASE,  
Trial Solicitor."

The Judge who presided at the trial—Judge James Aldrich—is dead.

The petition is also signed by all of the prominent citizens of Hodges, S. C., where the offense was committed, and the following report was submitted by the Board of Pardons:

"Columbia, S. C., April 5, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* case of Lewis Sanders, Greenwood, convicted of murder, with recommendation to mercy, in March, 1903.

On account of having interest in this case, the Hon. D. H. Magill asks to be excused from considering this petition.

The prisoner has served over ten years. Judge Sease, who was Solicitor at the trial, recommends a parole. Judge Aldrich, who

tried the case, is dead. The petition is endorsed by many of the leading citizens of Hodges, where the crime was committed, and includes R. J. Nichols, W. O. Nichols, J. A. McCord, C. W. Rainwater, Dr. Y. M. Hitch, O. A. Ellis, W. H. Leith, *et al.*

We find also that the entire jury of twelve who tried the case joins in the request for clemency. We, therefore, recommend the prisoner be paroled during good behavior.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

JAMES A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, April 5, 1913.

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SAXON, GANES (colored): Convicted at the March, 1907, term of Court for Barnwell county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to thirty years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following communication was received from Hon. Thos. H. Peeples, Attorney General:

"Columbia, Apr. 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Sir: The annexed petition was sent to my office several days ago. I have carefully examined the same and find that the names of some of the most prominent white people in that community are signed to same, and also a number of colored people. I know the petitioner, Ganes Saxon, he having lived on the Peeples plantation for a number of years; and, in fact, his father belonged to our family. I feel that this party has suffered sufficiently, and if your Excellency can see your way clear to grant this pardon, I feel that you will make no mistake in so doing. I am sincere in stating that this party has suffered sufficiently, and I therefore recommend that you grant the pardon. Very respectfully,

(Signed) THOS. H. PEEPLES,  
Attorney General."

The petition states that the manner of the said killing was as follows: "At or near Whaley, S. C., a dispute arose between Ganes Saxon and one Jack Peeples. That following the dispute a difficulty arose in which Jack Peeples and several of his companions made an assault upon Saxon. That one of the Peeples faction fired



upon Saxon, inflicting a wound in the forehead and jaw of Saxon. That thereupon being so attacked and wounded, Saxon drew his pistol to defend himself, firing at said Jack Peeples, who was attacking him, the bullet going wide of its intended course, striking Angus Jackson, an innocent bystander, resulting in his death. That there was no malice or trouble between Ganes Saxon and Angus Jackson, and his death was entirely accidental." All the parties were negroes.

The petition is signed by Hon. Chas. Carroll Sims, J. J. Still, H. D. Still, H. L. DeWitt, and many of the other good citizens of the community. A separate petition was presented, signed by Col. D. J. Griffith, Superintendent of the Penitentiary; Capt. W. H. Sondley, Mr. P. H. Lesesne, Mr. F. M. Mobley, and several of the Guards at the Penitentiary.

Upon this showing, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 16, 1913.

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SCOTT, DUMP, *alias* GEORGE RANDOLPH (colored): Convicted at the November, 1905, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Mr. C. R. D. Burns, of Walhalla, S. C., in which it is stated:

"We, the undersigned citizens, residing in the State of South Carolina, would respectfully petition your Excellency to grant a parole to one Dump Scott, *alias* George Randolph, during his good behavior. This negro was raised in the county of Oconee, near Clemson College. In the year 1905 he was tried for the murder of another negro, and was convicted of murder, with recommendation to mercy. ~~by the court~~ Hon. O. L. Schumpert, special Judge presiding, sentenced him on the 11th day of November, 1905, to imprisonment for life in the State Penitentiary. We would respectfully ask for his parole because he has served for seven years in prison, and has made a good and obedient prisoner, and we believe if given another chance to redeem himself, he will make a good and law-abiding citizen. He has been made a trusty and has always conducted himself well. Trusting that your Excellency will grant the parole asked for, we, your petitioners, will ever pray, etc."

It seems that this negro is on the detail at Clemson College, and a number of the citizens in that community have signed the petition, including Magistrate Cochran. The petition is also signed by Mr.

C. R. D. Burns, Mr. R. T. Jaynes, and other citizens of the county of Oconee.

In view of the petition presented, the good behavior of the defendant, and the further fact that he has served eight years imprisonment, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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SCRUGGS, JACK (white): Convicted at the July, 1907, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented in May, 1911, but I did not think, at that time, that the defendant had been sufficiently punished.

The petition states that the petitioner is now and was at the time of the commission of the crime mentally unbalanced. This petition is signed by physician, former Mayor J. B. Lee, of Spartanburg; present Mayor J. F. Floyd, Clerk of Court N. L. Bennett, Col. B. G. Landrum, Postmaster M. W. Floyd, and many of the other good, reputable citizens of Spartanburg.

Another petition was presented, in which it is stated that they are informed that the defendant is not bright mentally, and suffering from consumption. This is signed by T. R. Trimmer, Register Mesne Conveyance; Hon. Sam J. Nicholls, Mr. W. R. Dillingham, Mr. W. L. Johnson, Mr. J. F. Jefferies, Mr. J. L. Maxwell, Mr. W. J. Woodruff, and more than one hundred of the other citizens of that community.

In view of the petitions presented, and the fact that the defendant was not mentally strong, and is supposed to be suffering with tuberculosis, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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SEEGARS, DAVE, or DOVE SEIGERS (colored): Convicted at the March, 1912, term of Court for Chesterfield county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years and three months upon the public works of said county.

Petition was presented by Sheriff D. P. Douglass, of Chesterfield county, and signed by himself, Magistrate D. F. Brock, County Treasurer W. A. Douglass, Probate Judge M. J. Hough, County Auditor T. W. Eddins, Clerk of Court I. P. Mangum, County Supervisor H. F. King, Coroner H. T. Atkinson, and many other

good citizens of Chesterfield county, in which it is stated: "This petition is based on the fact that the facts in the case were close as to his guilt, the jury carrying out this idea by the verdict rendered, and the further fact that the said Dove Seigers has been of unusually good conduct on the chain gang of said county from the time of his sentence to this time, having been made a trusty, and we believe that the ends of justice will be served by granting him this pardon."

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, September 12, 1913.

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SEIGLER, J. G. (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Aiken county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following letter was received from Solicitor Gunter:

"Aiken, S. C., November 22, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I have seen the petition of Mr. J. G. Seigler for pardon, and I note that the jury have all signed it, as well as many of the best people of the county. Of course, you have not officially referred this petition to me, but at the solicitation of Mr. Seigler, I will say, that any action that you may see fit to take in regard to same will meet with no opposition from me.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) R. L. GUNTER, Solicitor."

The following petition was presented from the twelve jurors who tried the case:

"The State of South Carolina, Aiken County.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of the State afore-said:

We, the undersigned jurors, who rendered a verdict of manslaughter against James G. Seigler, at the June term, 1912, of the Court of General Sessions for Aiken county, hereby, for reasons to us satisfactory, respectfully and earnestly beg you to immediately pardon or parole the said James G. Seigler.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed) JAS. R. LEAGUE, Foreman;  
A. A. BROWN,  
E. P. KENNEDY,



I. H. RICHARDSON,  
 D. L. ADAMS,  
 O. L. WEEKS,  
 H. H. VERDERY,  
 L. L. HILL,  
 E. M. COOK,  
 C. W. MUNNERLYN,  
 J. A. STALLINGS,  
 F. O. GUNTER."

Following petition was presented:

"The State of South Carolina, County of Aiken.  
 To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor in and for the State of  
 South Carolina:

The humble petition of the undersigned citizens of the city and county of Aiken, would most respectfully show to your Excellency:

That James G. Seigler, who was convicted at the June term, 1912, of the Court of General Sessions, for Aiken county, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, is now, through your acumen and kindness of heart, at home, on a parole, until the first day of December, proximo, endeavoring to save from impending financial wreck, through foreclosure proceedings, a meagre allowance for his wife and child.

We are informed, and believe, that the condition of his health is precarious, and that it would be further jeopardized by confinement in prison.

For reasons which we deem good and sufficient, but too numerous to enumerate herein, which we trust will be related to you, in detail, by our legal representative, who will present this petition, we hereby appeal to you in the exercise of your discretion, to show that moderation, in the use of the pardoning power which has, to your credit, be it said, characterized your past administration, and either pardon or parole the said James G. Seigler. Your ready and accurate discernment and judgment, your desire for the improvement of the conduct and character of others; your further desire to alleviate suffering, evinced by your actions in similar cases—all of which we cannot too highly commend—prompt us to hope that his, and our humble petition, will be favorably answered, and that he, though, physically, weak and broken in health, may be restored to his family and allowed to visit and sit in the shadow of the tomb of his revered father, Aquila S. Seigler, who was a knightly Confederate soldier. Believ-

ing that your Excellency will take the proper action in the premises, which we are sure will redound to the welfare and honor of the State, your petitioners will ever pray."

This petition is signed by Senator John F. Williams, ex-County Treasurer J. A. M. Gardner, Col. D. W. Gaston, Col. D. W. Gaston, Jr., former Magistrate Weeks, Captain W. W. Williams, Master L. M. C. Oliveros, ex-Probate Judge G. R. Webb, Clerk of Court John W. Dunbar, Captain Claude E. Sawyer, Probate Judge Geo. C. Edmonston, County Treasurer Wesley Yonce, former Sheriff Rabon, Auditor D. H. Wise, Representatives G. T. Holley, Hugh Long and J. C. Busby, Mayor Herbert E. Gyles, of Aiken; Hon. Wesley Johnson, Congressman James F. Byrnes, Dr. L. B. Etheredge, Magistrate H. B. Garvin, Magistrate Walter E. Baker, E. P. Henderson, Esq., Col. D. S. Henderson, Hon. C. L. Butler, members of the Board of Control, ministers, school teachers, lawyers, farmers, merchants, mill operatives, the Mayor and members of the Council of the city of Aiken, and a great many of the other good citizens of the county of Aiken, entirely too numerous to set forth here.

Also, a second petition was presented from the county of Edgefield, signed by Clerk of Court W. S. Cogburn, Master L. M. Smith, Hon. Samuel McGowan Simkins, Magistrate Brunson, N. G. Evans, Esq., the Honorable Preston Brooks Mason, and a large number of the other citizens of Edgefield county.

Upon the unusually strong petition presented in behalf of the defendant, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, December 12, 1913.

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SHEPPARD, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the March, 1910, term of Court for Greenwood county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Greenwood county.

The petition presented in this case states:

"The undersigned citizens of the county of Greenwood hereby petition your Excellency to parole John Sheppard, who was convicted of housebreaking and larceny at the March term of Court of General Sessions for Greenwood county, 1910, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for the term of five years, in the Reformatory, he being at the time of his sentence of the age of thirteen years."

This petition is signed by Sheriff T. W. McMillan, County Auditor J. W. Canfield, Superintendent of Education John F. Wideman,

Judge of Probate T. J. Griffin, W. H. Yeldell, Jr., Rev. C. W. Creighton, J. K. Durst, W. P. Durst, W. B. Clark, A. C. Stockman, H. Pet Baker, W. B. Mays, John K. Durst, Jr., T. J. Bolton, M. T. Seymour, W. J. Anderson, A. F. McKissick, Geo. S. Andrews, and other good, reputable citizens of the city and county of Greenwood.

In view of the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant has served more than three and a half years of a five-year sentence, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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SIMMONS, WEBB (white): Convicted at the April, 1910, term of Court for Anderson county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

After looking very carefully over the petitions, and into the case, I am satisfied that this man was only guilty of manslaughter, and in reaching this conclusion I have applied my twenty-three years' experience at the bar, making a specialty of criminal work. An officer, because he is an officer, has no right to be abusive to his prisoner. To prove this, I beg to cite the cases of *State v. Beck*, 1 Hill; *State v. Anderson*, 1 Hill; *State v. Golden*, 1st S. C.; *State v. Clarke*, 28 S. E. On the contrary, they should treat with courtesy those whom they are called upon to arrest. The idea of an officer, when he arrests a man, having a right to knock him, or beat him, or otherwise mistreat him, is erroneous, and the cruelty of the officer often makes men outlaws; and, if the Courts and juries of this country would do their duty and convict some of these bullies and blackguards for cruelty, instead of sitting back and saying, "Oh, well, he is an officer, and is allowed to do as he pleases over these poor, unfortunate persons," it would put a stop to such acts. I do not mean to say that McAdam, the officer in this case, was a bully or a blackguard. Many such illustrations come to the knowledge of the officers of South Carolina, and particularly one which destroyed the happiness of one of the finest homes among one of the most noble and bravest families of the State. If the officer in that instance had been killed instead of the poor fellow who was murdered like a dog, it would have been much better for South Carolina. I presume, to the readers of history of the State it is unnecessary to call names, but this brutal murder, under the guise of the law, will ever be a dark mark upon those who participated in it. Of course, in this case, it was not as strong, and I am not



comparing the cases at all, but only refer to that one in order to show that it has led on and on, and by its being countenanced, hundreds of other little cases have followed. Some officers seem to think that when they arrest a man they have a *right* to knock him and beat him; they seem to think that if he is charged with a misdemeanor and he runs, he (the officer) has a right to shoot him, and when he shoots and kills him, he immediately cries out, in order to save himself, "I only shot to scare him." It is cowardly murder and the men who acquit such a man are the dirtiest of perjurers, and as long as I am Governor, if the juries acquit such people as these, I propose to take care of a man who takes care of himself against such official tyranny and wilful abuse of authority.

The petition for this young man's pardon is signed by more than a thousand of the people of Anderson county, in which they state that they think the defendant has been sufficiently punished. The signers of the petition are among South Carolina's best citizenship; they are those who made me Governor, and being their servant, it is but right and proper that I should obey their will. Among the names on the petition I find the editor of the *Anderson Intelligencer*, Col. V. B. Cheshire, Dr. Frank Ashmore, Col. G. M. Tolly, Dr. McCreey Glymph, Dr. Clyde F. Ross, Judge Muldrow, and a great many others entirely too numerous to mention; but stronger than all of this is a separate petition, which reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned members of the jury who convicted Webb Simmons of the murder of Bert McAdams, with recommendation to the mercy of the Court, petition and pray that you exercise clemency in his behalf. We think that he has already suffered enough for his crime, and we ask that you parole him, during good behavior."

The Judge who tried the case says: "I, the undersigned, the special presiding Judge at the trial, well remember the facts in the case, and have no objection to the Board recommending a parole to the Governor. (Signed) J. E. McDonald, Special Presiding Judge, July 2, 1913."

The Board of Pardons, in their report, make no recommendation, but simply state: "Hon. E. M. Rucker was heard in behalf of the prisoner. Eight of the trial jurors join in the prayer for pardon." I presume, by this, that, like a good many other people, they are straddling; therefore, I will throw their straddle leg on the side of mercy and grant a parole during good behavior, this man having served three years and a half in the tuberculosis incubator, I feel

that he has fully repaid to his State for whatever breach of the law he may have committed.

Parole granted, during good behavior, August 9, 1913.

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SLAUGHTER, SAM (colored): Convicted at the August, 1911, term of Court for Edgefield county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to three years imprisonment.

The following petition was presented,

"State of South Carolina, County of Edgefield.

The petition of your petitioners respectfully shows: That at the August term of the Court of General Sessions, 1911, for Edgefield county, Sam Slaughter plead guilty of larceny of twenty-one dollars (\$21.00) from the agent of the Southern Railroad at Johnston, S. C. The agent of the railroad left his office and left the cash drawer open, and Slaughter, seeing the money, could not resist the temptation and took out of the drawer \$21. That the said Sam Slaughter turned over to the agent sufficient personal property to more than reimburse him. That the Circuit Judge who tried the case sentenced Slaughter to three years on the chain gang at hard labor, and he has served almost a year, which, in the opinion of your petitioners, is a sufficient punishment for the offense. We, therefore, petition your Excellency to grant Slaughter an unconditional pardon, as this negro bears a good reputation as a hard-working boy, and this is his first offense.

(Signed) J. L. WALKER,  
J. A. LOTT,  
PAGE KEESEE,  
WM. A. MOBLEY,  
H. W. CROUCH,  
W. L. MOBLEY,  
T. F. LANGSTEN,  
J. P. BLAND,  
A. D. EICKSON,  
JAS. C. CLARK,  
H. SPANN TONEY,  
G. D. WALKER, M. D.;  
E. P. MOBLEY,  
J. D. BARTLEY, Mayor;  
J. P. WESTMORELAND,  
W. W. RHODEN,

J. E. SWEARINGEN,  
 C. D. KENNEY, P. M.;  
 A. P. LOTT,  
 J. G. MOBLEY,  
 WM. TONEY,  
 W. M. WRIGHT,  
 JAS. A. DOHERS,  
 W. R. WRIGHT,  
 GEO. P. COBB,  
 JOHN WRIGHT,  
 J. E. LAGAUM,  
 L. S. MAXWELL,  
 F. S. BLAND,  
 W. E. LAGRACE,  
 C. J. LOTT,  
 JOHN G. MOBLEY,  
 E. M. WALKER,  
 HANSFORD RHODEN,  
 W. H. CARPENTER,  
 A. S. RHODEN,  
 J. H. PAYNE,  
 S. G. MOBLEY, M. D.;  
 G. GRETTINS,  
 M. T. TURNER."

Upon this petition, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 3, 1913.

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SLIGH, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Lexington county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works of Lexington county.

Petition was presented in this case by Mr. W. P. Derrick, of Little Mountain, S. C., and is signed by Mr. J. B. Derrick, Representative J. B. Addy, J. S. Wessinger, and other citizens of the neighborhood where the crime is supposed to have been committed, and is accompanied by the following communication from T. O. Stoudemire:

To whom it may concern:

Whereas, A petition is being circulated to get signers asking Governor Blease to grant a pardon to John Sligh, convicted at the



September term of Court in Lexington county, of housebreaking and larceny, and desiring that justice be done, I take the liberty to make the following statement:

That there is considerable doubt as to the guilt of the accused, and that the principle evidence upon which he was convicted was that of another negro, upon whom was found the articles stolen at the time. This negro testified in Court that John Sligh had met him at Clinton on Friday before the crime, came with him to Chapin on Friday evening, lay around in the woods all day Saturday and was with him on Saturday night when the stores were broken open.

The fact is that John Sligh was working with the undersigned on the railroad every day of the week when this robbery occurred, as the records in office of the C., N. & L. R. R. will show. For some reason I was not called as a witness to establish this fact, and some of the jury who were on the case expressed opinions afterwards that if this had been shown, that he would not have been convicted. I am of the opinion that this negro was unjustly convicted, and hope to see him liberated. I make this statement voluntarily, and have nothing to gain in the matter.

(Signed) T. O. STOUDEMIRE,

Chapin, S. C., November 3, 1913.

Sec. Foreman."

The defendant having served two months of a six months sentence, in view of the petition presented, and the statement above quoted, a parole has been granted him, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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SMITH, C. O., *alias* CEOLA SMITH (colored): Convicted at the January, 1911, term of Court for Spartanburg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. C. D. Fortner, member of the House of Representatives from the county of Spartanburg.

The following affidavit was filed with the papers in this case:

"State of South Carolina, County of Spartanburg.

Personally appeared before me J. M. Edwards, who, being duly sworn, says that he knows Ceola Smith and has known him for the past twelve years, and that Ceola Smith lived upon his place for the past seven years, prior to his confinement; that he has never known him to be in any trouble at any time prior to the time at which he was convicted; on the other hand, he was a negro of the

best reputation, being an honest, hard-working negro. That he also knew Millie Montgomery, the negress that he killed, and that she was a negro woman of the very worst reputation. And, that in his judgment, Ceola Smith has been punished sufficient for his crime.

(Signed) J. M. EDWARDS.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 30th day of July, 1913.

(Signed) C. D. FORTNER,

Notary Public for S. C."

The petition is signed by Representative Fortner, Hon. W. S. Gray, Mr. S. G. Anderson, Mr. L. D. Fowler, Mr. J. A. Workman, Mr. W. F. Bryson, Mr. I. W. Gray, Mr. N. C. Remsen, Dr. H. H. Workman, Mr. G. W. Leatherwood, Dr. O. E. Westmoreland, Constable B. M. Poole, Mr. P. L. Swink, juror; merchants, farmers, bankers, mill operatives, and other good citizens of the community where the crime was committed.

Upon the petition presented, and the affidavit above quoted, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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SMITH, CURLEY (colored): Convicted at the January, 1912, term of Court for Lexington county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to eighteen months upon the public works of Lexington county.

Petition was presented by Senator W. H. Sharpe and Representative J. B. Addy, of Lexington county, and signed by other good citizens of the neighborhood where the offense was committed. The defendant has served fourteen months of an eighteen months sentence. The petition states that they desire him paroled, rather than let him finish his sentence, in order that the parole may be held over him to keep him from committing any crime in the future, feeling that it would be much safer to have him out on a parole than if he served his full term.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, on March 13, 1913.

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SMITH, HENRY, *alias* JOHN SMITH (white): Convicted at the June, 1913, term of Court for Lexington county, of breach of trust, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works of Lexington county.

The petition in this case was presented by the old mother of this boy, Mrs. Rachel Smith, and states that the defendant is very young (only fifteen years old), and served four months in jail before he was tried. He is the only son of a widowed mother, and is her only source of support. This petition is signed by about one hundred citizens of the mill district of Columbia.

Another petition was presented from Lexington county, signed by Hon. J. B. Addy, member of the House of Representatives from Lexington county; Mr. E. T. Dreher, Mr. J. A. Barr, Hon. John Bell Towell, and many other citizens of Lexington county.

Upon the petitions presented, and taking into consideration the youth of the defendant, and the time served in jail before being tried, and the further fact that half of the sentence imposed upon the defendant has been served, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

SMITH, M. L. (white): Convicted at the March, 1910, term of Court for Oconee county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Oconee county or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition in this case was presented by Hon. J. R. Earle, of Walhalla, S. C., and is signed by the twelve jurors who tried the case.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, recommended that a full pardon be granted the defendant; but, in my opinion, this is a case where the party should be put upon his good behavior.

Solicitor P. A. Bonham, in writing of the case, states:

"There are extenuating circumstances in this case, and if the jury think he should be pardoned, I will raise no objection.

(Signed) P. A. BONHAM, Solicitor."

Judge Wilson makes the following endorsement:

"To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Gov.: While the sentence in this case was not excessive, yet, owing to some mitigating circumstances of the case and the fact of the good behavior of prisoner, as stated in petition, I think the ends of justice will have been met by now granting prisoner a pardon, and I so recommend. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) JOHN S. WILSON,  
Pres. Judge."



Upon the petition presented, endorsement of the Judge and Solicitor, the defendant having served more than three years of a five-year sentence, a parole was granted to him, during good behavior, June 27, 1913.

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SMITH, SING (colored): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Abbeville county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works.

Petition was presented by Hon. J. Howard Moore, of Abbeville, S. C., accompanied by the following affidavit:

"State of South Carolina, County of Abbeville.

Personally appeared before me Clarence Gailey, who, being duly sworn, says that at the time Sing Smith shot me he was drunk and did not know what he was doing, that he and I were friends then and are friends now, that I did not want to prosecute him, but the Rural Policeman arrested him anyway. We were at a 'hot supper' and we were drinking. I did not want Sing Smith prosecuted, and I am now willing and ask that he be pardoned or paroled.

his

CLARENCE X GAILEY.

mark

Sworn to before me this 5th day of April, 1913.

(Signed) W. H. BONDS,

Witness:

Notary Public, S. C.

E. O. Clinkscales."

Mr. Moore, in a letter, states: "Sing Smith had no attorney to represent him, was advised to enter a plea of guilty; he stated at the time he entered plea of guilty that he had no knowledge of the shooting."

The petition presented is signed by a number of the very best people of the community where the alleged crime was committed, in which they state: "On the night of December 23, 1912, Sing Smith, while at a negro 'hot supper,' shot one Clarence Gailey in the leg. Sing Smith at the time was drunk; there was no malice between the parties; Clarence Gailey did not even want to prosecute Sing Smith, as they were friends then and are friends now, and we understand that Clarence Gailey is asking that Sing Smith be pardoned or paroled. In view of the above stated facts, we do

not believe that Sing Smith should be punished, and we feel that he has been punished enough and do now earnestly ask that you pardon or parole him."

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 5, 1913.

SPATES, SAM (colored): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Williamsburg county, of grand larceny, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment upon the public works.

After considering this case, the Board of Pardons made the following recommendation:

"8.

Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Sam Spates, Williamsburg, grand larceny, seven years, February 21, 1912.

We understand that this prisoner prevented a jail escape and a plot to murder the jailer at Kingstree, and for this reason the Sheriff has interested himself in his behalf. All of the county officials and Mayor of Kingstree, with Representative Kellahan, joins in the petition. We are rather inclined to think this was a severe sentence for the offense committed, and under the circumstances and showing made, we recommend that the prisoner be granted a parole during good behavior. Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further conditions that he do not use intoxicating liquors or beverages in any manner, shape or form, and that he do not "shoot craps." Parole dated July 8, 1913.

STEPMAN, BELT (colored): Convicted at the Fall, 1909, term of Court for Lexington county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. F. E. Dreher, of Lexington, S. C., and Hon. R. Y. Kibler, of Columbia, S. C. Accompanying the petition are affidavits signed by J. W. Cleckley, Jim Jones, Wash

Weathers. Also certificate from Lewis Langford, County Supervisor, accompanied by an affidavit of Sheriff P. H. Corley, as to the arrest of the defendant, his conduct, etc., along with a petition signed by Hon. R. L. Shuler, member of the House of Representatives; Dr. Methias,\* County Superintendent of Education Martin, and other prominent citizens of Lexington county, including residents of Irmo, Ballentine, New Brookland. Also a communication from Solicitor George Bell Timmerman, in which he says: "I recommend that the sentence be commuted to at least one-half."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that if he hereafter be convicted in the Court of General Sessions for any offense, he shall be recommitted to the Penitentiary to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated March 18, 1913.

STEVENSON, JAMES (colored): Convicted at the April, 1910, term of Court for Chester county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., April 29, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* James Stevenson, Chester; murder, with recommendation to mercy; life imprisonment.

Attorney W. H. Newbold and Mr. M. E. McFadden were heard in behalf of the petitioner. This is a very strong petition, and, with the circumstances surrounding the case, together with the evidence as shown in these papers, we are moved to recommend that the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior, after having served five years.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,

Board of Pardons."

The petition presented is signed by more than two hundred of the citizens of Chester, including the foreman of the trial jury, Supervisors of Registration, Commissioners of Election, Magistrates, Attorneys Caldwell, Westbrook, McFadden, Wise, Hamilton,



Gaston, Hemphill, Patterson, Marion, with the following endorsement from Sheriff Colvin:

"I had the defendant in jail for a long time, and I believe that he ought to be pardoned. He was forced or aggravated to such state of mind that he was not responsible for his acts.

(Signed) D. E. COLVIN, Sheriff of Chester County."

In view of the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, and the strong petition presented, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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STOKES, A. M. (white): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Orangeburg county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Orangeburg county.

The defendant was granted a parole upon the petition of the petitioner, letter of Hon. Thomas F. Brantley, and certificate of Dr. Doyle, which are herewith set out in full:

"Augusta, Ga., December 19, 1912.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: During the September term of Court, I was convicted of handling whiskey in the city of Orangeburg. I had been handling whiskey and forfeited to the county a cash bond of \$300, not appearing for trial, for the reason that I could not and would not deny the charge. I wish to speak absolutely plain to you, Governor, about this matter. There was a tacit understanding between me and the authorities in Orangeburg that I would forfeit so much every few weeks to the city upon being raided. This I did for quite a period of time, and in this way paid to the city of Orangeburg what, practically, meant a license. I was raided by the county authorities and brought before the Courts, as above indicated, and given a sealed sentence for service upon the public works of Orangeburg county, I am informed. There were several others in the town of Orangeburg who handled whiskey upon the same conditions as I was handling it—these parties were raided on the same date that I was raided, but were not tried, and I doubt if they will ever be tried.

I was a political friend of yours in the race for Governor, and it was well known to the county authorities; I used whatever influence that I had, in your behalf, as everybody in Orangeburg will tell you. The county officials, who were bitter opponents of yours, knew of

this—they even came to me when I was doing what I could for you and told me that if I would work for your opponent, the case against me would never be tried; this, I refused to do; the result was, as the records of the Courts will show, that I was forced to trial, and the other parties who were raided at the same time have never yet been forced to trial. I am compelled to believe that I was discriminated against because of political affairs, and your friends in Orangeburg believe this to be true.

I have a wife and several children, and am now living in Georgia. I desire to be paroled, or pardoned—am willing to pay a reasonable fine, although, as I have before stated, I thought under the arrangements I was working in Orangeburg, that it was unfair to punish me, when I really paid to the city of Orangeburg hundreds of dollars by tacit agreement. It does not seem that I should be made a scapegoat of under these conditions. If I am allowed to pay a reasonable fine, instead of a service upon the public works, or paroled or pardoned, I promise you that I will not engage in the whiskey business in the city of Orangeburg again. I am physically unable to perform manual labor upon the public works of either the county or State. I trust, Governor, that you can see your way clear to grant my request, because I feel that it is a meritorious one, and you will never have cause to regret any favors shown me.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) A. M. STOKES."

"State of South Carolina, County of Orangeburg.

Personally appeared, Dr. Thos. C. Doyle, and says that he is a practicing physician in the city of Orangeburg, and has been for a number of years; that he was the family physician for A. M. Stokes from his youth; that he is familiar with the physical condition of A. M. Stokes, having known him intimately, as his family physician, for twenty-three years; that he has, all of his life, suffered from stomach trouble and dyspepsia; that owing to these troubles, he is weak, physically, and absolutely unable to perform manual labor, and that under exposure or exertions incident to manual labor imposed upon, or exacted of him, would not only be dangerous to his life and health, but would be cruel and inhuman.

I make this statement voluntarily on my part, in justice to the man who is absolutely unable to stand the hardships of exposure and labor of a sentence upon the public works of the county or State.

(Signed) THOS. C. DOYLE, M. D.

Sworn to before me this 14th day of January, A. D. 1913.

(Signed) THOS. F. BRANTLEY, (L. S.)

Notary Public, S. C."

"Orangeburg, S. C., January 15, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: The following is a history of the case against A. M. Stokes for violating the dispensary law: He was convicted at the September term of Court at Orangeburg; Judge H. F. Rice; Solicitor P. T. Hilderbrand; offense, violating dispensary law; sentence, five years; date of sentence, 9th day of September, 1912.

The defendant, A. M. Stokes, is absolutely unfitted and unsuited to manual labor, being very weak, physically, and his physicians stated to me that it would be absolutely cruel and brutal to place him upon the public works of the county.

I enclose you herewith an affidavit of his family physician, one of the most reputable physicians of Orangeburg, which tells very plainly how inhuman it would be to require this man to serve a sentence; besides, this man has already paid to the county hundreds of dollars, under a somewhat license system here in vogue in Orangeburg at the time he was convicted. He also has forfeited a bond to the county of \$300, which was paid to the county in cash; he also promises never to engage in the whiskey business here in Orangeburg again, and, therefore, under all these circumstances, I think a parole would be absolutely justifiable.

There was, besides, a good deal of politics mixed up in this suit against Stokes, and I trust that you may see your way clear to grant this request.

With kind personal regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) BRANTLEY & ZEIGLER,

By Thos. F. Brantley."

Parole was granted, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he hereafter be convicted of engaging in the whiskey business, that he shall serve the sentence herein imposed Parole dated January 17, 1913.

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STOVER, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the October, 1908, term of Court for Lancaster county, of burglary and larceny, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.



Petition was presented by Hon. T. J. Strait, Senator from Lancaster county, and endorsed by him. The petition is also signed by J. K. Harris, the prosecutor, and by some of the good white citizens of Lancaster. The petition states that this negro was only about fifteen years old when convicted; that he appeared in Court without counsel to defend him, and plead guilty, and that the jury, with consent of the Solicitor, returned a verdict of guilty, with recommendation to mercy.

In view of length of time the defendant has served, the petition presented, and the age of the defendant at the time he was convicted, a parole was granted to him, during good behavior, March 3, 1913.

STOVER, J. P. (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of breach of trust with fraudulent intent, and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment upon the public works of Greenville county.

The petition of the defendant states: "That the prosecutor, A. Schonwetter, claimed that your petitioner had defrauded him, A. Schonwetter, out of a \$100 check; that since your petitioner's conviction he has paid said prosecutor the said amount claimed to have been fraudulently used. That your petitioner is a poor man, and has a wife and two small children, mother-in-law and an aunt, to support, they having no other means of support than the labor of your petitioner."

The petitioners state: "We, the undersigned citizens of the county of Greenville, respectfully beg that your Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, grant a full and free pardon to J. P. Stover, thereby granting his petition." This petition is signed by the prosecutor, A. Schonwetter, Hon. W. G. Stubbs, Judge of Probate John T. Bramlett, Deputy Sheriffs J. S. Hunsinger and W. B. Keller, Sheriff Rector, Magistrate Samuel Stradley, Dr. J. P. Carlisle, and other good, reputable citizens of the county and city of Greenville.

In view of the petition presented, and the circumstances surrounding this case, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

STRATFOOT, SCIPIO (colored): Convicted at the September, 1903, term of Court for Lexington county, of murder, with recommenda-

tion to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. George Bell Timmerman, now Solicitor of the 11th Judicial Circuit, accompanied by the following letter:

"About ten years ago, shortly after I was admitted to the bar, I defended a negro named Scipio Stratfoot, for murder. He was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary. Hon. W. H. Sharpe assisted Solicitor Thurmond in the prosecution.

I have often thought of this case, and in the light of subsequent experience, I have reached the conclusion that a good lawyer of experience could have succeeded in getting him off for at least manslaughter. He has already served approximately ten years of this sentence, and it is my candid opinion that he has been sufficiently punished for this offense. You will see from the records that the killing grew out of a family row, and that the deceased had a pistol, while the prisoner only had an ordinary gun. I have taken this matter up with Mr. Sharpe and he agrees with me that the prisoner has been sufficiently punished, and has recommended his pardon, as may be seen by reference to the herewith enclosed petition for pardon.

I earnestly hope that you may see your way clear to grant this prisoner a pardon, and, in doing so, I believe that you will be doing an act of mercy and justice.

Yours truly,

(Signed) GEO. BELL TIMMERMAN."

In writing of this case, State Senator Sharpe says:

"I prosecuted this case, and recall that it was a family fuss. In my judgment he has served as long as serving will do any good, and I recommend his pardon.

(Signed) W. H. SHARPE,  
State Senator Lexington County."

Judge Frank B. Gary, who presided at the trial, states:

"I can recall none of the facts concerning this case, and, therefore, I am in no position to make any recommendation.

Respectfully,

(Signed) FRANK B. GARY."

The petition is signed by Treasurer E. L. Wingard, Auditor W. D. Dent, County Superintendent of Education H. L. Harmon, Post-

master J. F. Fallaw, Hon. F. E. Dreher, and many of the other good substantial and influential citizens of Lexington county.

Upon the petition presented, and the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, May 30, 1913.

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STROTHER, LEM (colored): Convicted at the September, 1909, term of Court for Abbeville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

In a communication from Hon. J. Moore Mars, he states:

"I represented him (Lem Strother) at his trial and believed then, and do now, that he was convicted wrongfully. I recall that as attorney for this negro, I went before Judge Klugh for bail, and they had such a poor case against him that Judge Klugh admitted him to bail in the sum of \$500. At the trial, the prosecution brought in some new witnesses that swore falsely against this negro."

Upon the above statement, and in view of the statement from the Penitentiary officials, attesting to the good conduct of this prisoner, the sentence imposed upon him was commuted to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, by me, on December 24, 1912.

Since that time, a petition has been presented, in which it is stated: "That your petitioners believe that the said Lem Strother has been sufficiently punished for the crime whereof he was convicted, to wit: killing one Will Cannon, colored, in view of the facts that when the said Lem Strother committed the crime he was only about twenty years of age. That your petitioners are familiar with the facts surrounding the crime and with the above facts so stated, now ask your Excellency to pardon or parole the said Lem Strother." This petition is signed by Hon. J. Moore Mars, Senator from Abbeville county; Sheriff C. J. Lyon, Hon. J. Frank Clinkscales, and by many of the other good citizens of the county and city of Abbeville.

In view of the statement by Senator Mars, and the petition presented, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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STROUD, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the April, 1902, term of Court for Chester county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.



The Board of Pardons, on May 1, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of John Stroud; Chester county; convicted of murder, with recommendation to mercy; sentenced, life imprisonment, April, 1902.

Judge J. B. Westbrook, of Chester, was heard in behalf of the prisoner. The petition is signed by nine of the jury, Hons. A. L. Haston, David Hamilton, R. B. Caldry, I. McD. Hood; S. E. McFaddin, W. H. Newbold, T. J. Cunningham, Clerk of Court Cornwell, Supervisor Darby, Sheriff Colvin, Senator Hardin, Representative A. G. Brice and others. The trial Judge, R. C. Watts, also recommends clemency. Under this showing, we recommend parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

Upon the above recommendation, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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SUBER, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the July, 1892, term of Court for Laurens county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to serve seven years in the State Penitentiary. This defendant escaped from the Penitentiary; was recaptured and recommitted to the Penitentiary to serve the remainder of his sentence, which would have expired on February 27, 1914.

This defendant was convicted along with several others for killing another negro.

Petition was presented, asking for his parole, signed by about two hundred of the white citizens of Laurens county, including Representative George A. Browning; Mayor W. M. McMillan, of Clinton; W. R. Richey, Jr., Geo. W. Young, John W. Little, C. S. Hipp, Lafayette Crawford, D. Rhett Copeland, J. H. Young and others.

Upon the showing made, and the fact that the defendant has only about seven months more to serve, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, July 21, 1913.

SUBER, NANNIE LEE (colored): Convicted at the January, 1911, term of Court for Richland county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Mr. E. L. Asbill, of Leesville, S. C.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Gov. of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Nannie Lee Suber; Richland county; convicted of murder; sentence life imprisonment; January, 1911.

The Superintendent of the Penitentiary certifies to her good conduct. The Penitentiary Physician certifies as to her being in feeble condition and unable to work. Hon. W. T. Aycock, special Judge, who tried the case, recommends clemency. We, therefore, recommend parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, above quoted, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

SUDDETH, HENRY (white): Convicted at the January, 1912, term of Court for Greenwood county, of involuntary manslaughter and carrying concealed weapons, and was sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Greenwood county or in the State Penitentiary.

The Board of Pardons, on April 29, 1913, recommended that the prisoner be paroled after he has served two and one-half years of his sentence.

The petition in this case is signed by two hundred and eighty of the good citizens of Greenwood county, including such men as Dr. C. L. Kenedy, W. W. Wardlaw, J. W. King, W. H. Robinson, F. A. Cook, Magistrate; J. M. Cuddy, J. F. Penson, Jas. Rogers, T. N. Hodges.

Judge Sease endorsed the petition as follows:

"I recommend that the sentence be commuted to two years and one-half ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ).

(Signed) T. S. SEASE,  
Presiding Judge."

In view of the very strong showing made in behalf of this defendant, and the fact that the trial Judge recommends that his sentence be commuted to two and one-half years, which is concurred in by the Board of Pardons, the defendant having already served nearly two years of a five-year sentence, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

SUGS, ROCKSEY, *alias* ROXY SCRUGGS (colored): Convicted at the September, 1905, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This woman, Roxy Sugs, or Scruggs, was convicted and sentenced to the Penitentiary, as above stated, and has, therefore, served eight years imprisonment. She was convicted of killing another negro woman in the home of the defendant, about her husband. It seems that the deceased was continually in company with the husband of this woman and had given her considerable annoyance and trouble. She finally caught her in her own house with her husband, and in the difficulty which followed, the deceased met her death. This woman has served eight years, which, in my opinion, under the circumstances, is sufficient punishment; for, I do not think she should have been convicted of more than manslaughter, under the circumstances. If she had been a white woman, she would not have been convicted.

The defendant has no father, nor mother; has not heard from her husband in more than six years, and has no one to assist her.

In view of the circumstances surrounding her case, and the fact that she has served eight years imprisonment, a parole has been granted her, during good behavior, November 22, 1913.

SUMMER, LEO (colored): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Lexington county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works of Lexington county.

Petition was presented by Mr. Joe B. Derrick, of Little Mountain, S. C., in which it is stated that the stolen goods were found on or in



the possession of another negro; that he does not think he has been treated justly, and that he should be granted a parole; that he is twenty-five years of age, and has never been accused of an unlawful act before.

This petition is signed by Hon. J. B. Addy, member of the House of Representatives from Lexington county; Rev. W. D. Rice, M. L. Wheeler, and other citizens of the neighborhood where the crime is supposed to have been committed.

The defendant having served two months of a six months sentence, in view of the petition presented, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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SWEET, WILL (colored): Convicted at the April, 1913, term of Court for Laurens county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to fifteen months imprisonment upon the public works of Laurens county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by W. B. Knight, Esq., of Laurens, S. C., and accompanied by the following affidavit from Hon. C. A. Power, Clerk of Court for Laurens county:

"State of South Carolina, County of Laurens.—Affidavit.

Personally appeared before me C. A. Power, who, being duly sworn, says that he is Clerk of the Court for Laurens county, in the State aforesaid; that the signatures to the foregoing petition are the names of \_\_\_\_\_ of the jurors who tried the defendant, Will Sweet, for the offense therein mentioned, and this deponent is informed and believes said signatures to be genuine; that this deponent was present at the trial of the said Will Sweet and heard the various witnesses for both the defense and State testify in said case, and that from the bad reputation for truth and veracity of one R. A. Vance and his son, Will Vance, the State's prosecuting witnesses, as established by reputable white witnesses for the defense, this deponent is of the honest opinion that the said Will Sweet is entitled to mercy from your Excellency. (Signed) C. A. POWER, C. C. C. P.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this September 29th, A. D. 1913. (Signed) O. G. THOMPSON, Probate Judge."

One petition presented is signed by the foreman and nine of the other jurors who tried this case, in which they state: "That the testimony showed during the night preceding the morning of the shooting of the said Vance by the said Sweet, a negro frolic or hot supper

had been in progress at said pretended boarding house, and the ready 'jug' of the said Vance resulted in much disorderly conduct—the testimony further showing that during the progress of the frolic Will Vance attacked Sweet with an open razor, the said Sweet resisted said attack with threats to shoot the said Vance if he persisted in same—trouble at that time being avoided with the said Vance. That some 6 or 7 hours thereafter, the next morning, about sunup, or immediately thereafter, the said Will Sweet, in company with one Emory Peden, left for home; Will Vance followed, saying that he was going to the house of a friend; that after all of the said parties had walked about one-quarter of a mile up the road, the said Vance undertook to renew his trouble of the night before with the said Sweet, telling the said Sweet that he really meant to cut him the night before; Sweet replying, 'You know you didn't mean to cut me,' at the same time reproving Vance for his present language and for his previous conduct during the night; whereupon the said Vance became angry, drew his razor and said: 'I will show you whether I meant to cut you,' and while then and there upon the public highway, advanced upon the said Sweet with the drawn razor, and while continuing to advance with the razor in a striking attitude, Sweet, while retreating, shot Vance, and continued to shoot until he had shot the third time before being able to check said attack of Vance, the last shot taking effect. Your petitioners are informed and believe that said shot took effect in the arm only; that said wound was not of a serious nature; that said Vance was never confined to his bed, and has long since fully recovered from said wound. That the said Will Vance and his father, R. A. Vance, both bear an unsavory reputation, and more especially said reputation for the truth and veracity is very bad. That the defendant, Will Sweet, is an humble, obedient and hard-working negro, his reputation for truth and veracity, peace and good order, being exceptionally good."

Another petition was presented, signed by a number of the citizens of Laurens county, in which they ask that the defendant be shown executive clemency.

In view of the circumstances surrounding this case, the petition from ten of the jurors, and the petition from the citizens of Laurens county, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November, 1913.

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SWINDLER, TOM (colored): Convicted at the November, 1908, term of Court for Newberry county, of murder, with recommenda-

tion to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition in this case is signed by J. Maxcy Morris, foreman, and other members of the jury. It is also signed by Magistrate J. H. Dorroh, Col. E. H. Aull, County Supervisor J. H. Chappell, Sheriff Cannon G. Blease, Dr. T. W. Smith, Alderman P. F. Baxter, Mr. Antine Buzhardt, Postmaster Purcell, Col. D. A. Roof, County Auditor Eugene S. Wertz, J. H. Summer, J. M. Taylor, Hon. Otto Klettner, W. F. Ewart, Magistrate J. C. Sample, Dr. J. Wm. Folk, M. M. Livingston, S. B. Aull, C. H. Shannon, and more than one hundred others, comprising the best people of Newberry, who are personally well known to me.

In view of the fact that the defendant has served five years imprisonment, has made a good prisoner, together with the strong petition presented in his behalf, he has been paroled, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

THOMPSON, JOE (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Anderson county, of housebreaking and larceny, and sentenced to nine months imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county.

The petition presented states that this boy is weak-minded, and, from the facts in the case, was persuaded by one Kay, who was with him, to join in the crime. The petition is signed by several citizens of Anderson, and accompanied by the following communication from Judge Bowman:

"His Excellency, C. L. Blease, Governor South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: The facts as related in petition herein are as I understood them at the time of trial. I, therefore, join in the request that the boy defendant be paroled. In my judgment the case was not such a one as I could suspend the sentence.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) I. W. BOWMAN,

Orangeburg S. C., June 5, 1913.

Trial Judge."

Upon the petition presented and the recommendation of the Judge who tried the case, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, June 11, 1913.



TOALE, PHILIP P. (white): Convicted at the October, 1912, term of Court for Aiken county, of obtaining goods by false pretense, and sentenced to pay a fine of two hundred dollars and to serve thirty days upon the public works of Aiken county.

The following communication was received from Hon. John F. Williams, Senator from Aiken county:

"April 4, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: I am mailing you under separate cover case and exceptions that you may see the testimony in the case of State against Phillip Toale. I am handing you herewith, enclosed, letter from Judge Wilson, asking you to remove thirty days imprisonment from sentence of Phillip Toale. He was convicted of obtaining property under false pretense and sentenced to \$200 and thirty days. I enclose letter of L. M. Oliveros, who was foreman of the jury, asking that Toale be pardoned upon payment of \$100, in order that his citizenship may be restored. Toale is a very poor man, and it seems that his opinion as to the legal effect of a paper was the basis of the prosecution \* \* \* His mother, who is, his only chance of raising the money, is sick in New York, but we are expecting her back soon as she is able to come. Toale's sister will raise \$100. \* \* \* Thanking you for the consideration in advance, I am,

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) JOHN F. WILLIAMS."

"Aiken, S. C., March 29, 1913.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: I was foreman of the jury which convicted Phillip P. Toale of obtaining property under false pretense here at Aiken last year. He was sentenced to pay a fine of two hundred (\$200) dollars and serve thirty days. In my judgment the reduction of the fine to one hundred (\$100) dollars and the pardon of Toale, would be sufficient punishment to him, and doubtless would meet with the approval of the jury. This is not a new idea of mine, but has been my desire since before the verdict was agreed to, and I heard nearly all the panel express themselves similarly. I will thank you to pardon Toale upon his paying a fine of one hundred (\$100) dollars to restore his citizenship.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) L. M. C. OLIVEROS."

"Manning, S. C., March 29, 1913.

Hon. John F. Williams, Aiken, S. C.

My Dear Sir: Yours of 28th inst., in regard to case of *The State v. Phillip Toale*, received. Yes, if the Governor refers the matter to me, I will recommend a commutation of sentence; that is, that upon payment of the \$200 fine the imprisonment be removed. You are at liberty to use this letter with the Governor if you see fit to do so.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) JOHN S. WILSON."

After a careful reading of the case and exceptions and testimony submitted, and taking into consideration the recommendation from Hon. Jno. S. Wilson, presiding Judge, and Hon. L. M. C. Oliveros, foreman of the jury, a parole was granted to the defendant, upon the condition that he pay to the Clerk of Court of Aiken county, South Carolina, the sum of one hundred (\$100) dollars; and upon the further condition of good behavior,—the parole being dated April 12, 1913.

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THOMPSON, JOE RAINEY (colored): Convicted at the June, 1910, term of Court for Dillon county, of assault and battery of an indecent nature, and sentenced to five years imprisonment upon the public works of Dillon county.

A petition was presented by Mr. J. R. Smith, of Mallory, S. C., in which it is stated: "This negro is well known as a 'good white man's negro,' and we, therefore, humbly ask that he be pardoned." The petition is signed by Sheriff Lane, Senator Manning, Judge of Probate Brunson, Auditor Bruce, Magistrate Haselden, Probate Judge Joe Cabell Davis, and many other prominent citizens of Dillon, with the following recommendation from the Judge and Solicitor, and the following recommendation from the Board of Pardons:

"I recommend parole, commutation or pardon, as his Excellency may see best. (Signed) GEO. E. PRINCE, Trial Judge.

November 14, 1912."

"If the prisoner has been a good, well-behaved prisoner and shows some indications of repentance, I recommend a parole, on good behavior. (Signed) J. MONROE SPEARS, Sol. 4th Ct."

"9.

Columbia, S. C., January 3, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Joe Rainey Thompson; Dillon county; convicted of assault and batter of an indecent nature; sentence five years; June 15, 1910.

Hon. George E. Prince, Judge, and Hon. J. Monroe Spears, Solicitor, who tried the case, recommend parole. County officials and a good many of the citizens of Dillon signed the petition. We, therefore, recommend parole, during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, March 6, 1913.

TRUESDALE, ALEXANDER (colored): Convicted at the October, 1911, term of Court for Lancaster county, of larceny, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Lancaster county.

The following certificates were submitted:

"State of South Carolina, County of Lancaster.

April 7, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: One Alex. Truesdale, col., who is now on the chain gang in Lancaster county, and whose time will expire on August the 12th, 1913. He has been sick and unable for service about three (3) months, and is gradually growing worse, and also his mind is impaired and one *big toe* is about sloughed off.

The County Physician advises that if he be paroled he may recover in his mind and health both.

The Board of Commissioners also recommend his parole.

(Signed) T. O. BLACKMON, Supervisor."

"I, as County Physician, certify that Alex. Truesdale, who is a very sick man and needs the attention of his family, cannot recover with treatment received on chain gang, and I will also certify that



he shall not be a burden to the county and will bind myself to see to it that the county will not suffer.

(Signed) T. J. STRAIT, M. D.,  
County Physician."

In view of the above statements, and the further fact that the defendant has served eighteen months of a two years sentence, a parole has been granted to him, during good behavior,—the parole being dated April 12, 1913.

TUCKER, FRANK (colored): Convicted at the June, 1908, term of Court for Cherokee county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or on the public works.

Petition in this case was presented by Messrs. Gwynn & Hannon, of Spartanburg, S. C., accompanied by a letter, in which they state "that they went over the case with Judge Sease, who remembers the case, he being Solicitor at the time, and he tells us that he will recommend clemency in this case."

The following was submitted from Mr. G. W. Speer:

"Gaffney, S. C., May 7, 1913.

In the matter of Frank Tucker, tried at the June, 1908, term of Court for Cherokee county, for murder, and convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced by Judge Hydrick to serve ten (10) years on the county chain gang. Solicitor Sease agreed with me to let the negro plead guilty of manslaughter and he would agree to a sentence of two years, and that he would ask the Governor to pardon him at the end of twelve months. I agreed to this, but the negro came from Carlisle, his family lived on a plantation of J. C. Wallace, and he had sent P. D. Barron up here in the meantime to represent him and Barron wouldn't agree to this. The negro had a very good defense, but not sufficient to clear him. I was appointed by the Court to defend him, got nothing and get nothing for this, is merely a statement showing what the Solicitor would have done, but for the objection of Mr. Barron. I think that he has served more of his time than he ought to. Two years was sufficient.

(Signed) G. W. SPEER."

The petition is signed by many good white citizens.

In view of the above mentioned statements, and the petitions presented, the defendant having served more than half of the sentence imposed upon him, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

TURNER, JAMES, *alias* A. E. BARRETT (white): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Richland county, of larceny of bicycle, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county or in the State Penitentiary.

Under date of November 17, 1913, Hon. W. Hampton Cobb, Solicitor, addressed the following communication to me in reference to this case:

"Columbia, S. C., November 17, 1913.

His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina,  
Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: At the September term, 1912, of the Court of General Sessions for Richuand county, James Turner, white, plead guilty to stealing a bicycle, and was sentenced to two years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary. He had previously served a term for larceny in the Penitentiary.

From my observation of the man at the time, I was impressed with the fact that he appeared to be weak-minded, and in a moment of want just after his release had stolen the bicycle; and I told Turner then if he would call my attention to his service after one years imprisonment, I would ask you to parole him.

I enclose herewith a letter from Turner and also from Col. Griffith in regard to the case. He has probably served about fifteen months of his two years sentence.

He tells me that he has no people to help him if he is released, but that he will surely hunt work and behave himself hereafter, and I believe this is a case where you could very properly exercise your clemency power to a man who might be redeemed, if given a chance, and whose further imprisonment might very seriously injure his broken health.

I submit these facts, and if you can consistently do so, I would respectfully ask that you parole this party during behavior.

Very truly, (Signed) W. HAMPTON COBB,  
Solicitor 5th Circuit."

Col. D. J. Griffith, Superintendent of the Penitentiary, in writing of this case, states: "He is a well-behaved prisoner and never gives any trouble at all. He is a weak-minded man and has some kind of spell, something like a fit."

Upon the recommendation of the Solicitor, who prosecuted the case, and the recommendation of Col. Griffith as to his good conduct and bad health, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

VANN, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the January, 1909, term of Court for Richland county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment upon the public works of Richland county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition in this case was presented by R. Beverly Sloan, Esq., of Columbia, S. C., which is as follows:

"We, the undersigned citizens of Richland county, would respectfully recommend and request that a parole, during good behavior, be granted to one John Vann, now confined in the South Carolina State Penitentiary, the said John Vann having been convicted of manslaughter in the Court of General Sessions for Richland county, and sentenced on the 21st January, 1909, by his Honor, Judge D. E. Hydrick, to serve a term of fifteen years for having killed one Aaron Nelson, for the reason that we are informed and believe that the ends of justice have been carried out, and that the said John Vann has reformed and should be allowed another opportunity, which we believe should be effected by paroling him, during good behavior.

Very respectfully,

(Signd) R. BEVERLEY SLOAN,  
W. H. MACFEAT,  
W. M. LESTER,  
G. T. PRESSLEY,  
J. W. STRICKLAND,  
B. L. ABNEY,  
WILIE JONES,  
GEO. H. HUGGINS,  
L. B. OWENS, M. D.;  
T. A. HEISE."

In addition to the above petition, five of the jurors who tried the case make the following request:

"Having served on the jury which convicted John Vann of manslaughter on the 21st day of January, 1909, in the Court of General Sessions for Richland county, would respectfully recommend that he be paroled, during good behavior.

(Signed) B. C. DENT,  
R. T. HILL,  
SAMUEL MADDOX,  
L. W. DAVIS,  
C. O. HEDGPETH."



This negro was convicted for killing another negro; he has served almost five years imprisonment; has made a good prisoner, and in view of these facts, and the very strong petition from leading citizens of Columbia, above quoted, and five of the jurors who tried the case, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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VERELLE, W. H. (white): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Greenwood county, of carbreaking and larceny, and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment.

The following letter was received from Hon. R. A. Cooper, Solicitor:

"Laurens, S. C., September 10, 1912.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: In June of this year, in the Court of General Sessions, at Greenwood, one W. H. Verelle pleaded guilty to carbreaking and larceny, and was sentenced for a period of eighteen months in the State Penitentiary. He is now serving his sentence in the Penitentiary at Columbia. He is a young boy about nineteen years of age, whose mother died a number of years ago, and like a great many other boys, for some reason, he left the path of rectitude and his present condition is the result.

At the time he pleaded guilty, it was my intention, and I so stated to his father and other relatives, to let him serve a small part of his sentence and then ask you to parole him, during good behavior. He has now served more than two months, and I feel that the demands of justice will be met, and the law vindicated, by granting him a parole, during good behavior. It is my hope that he will be restrained from doing wrong by having this sentence held against him. His father is a good citizen of Greenwood county, and, in fact, all of his family, so far as I have been able to learn, enjoy the confidence and respect of the community in which they live. The case was tried before the Hon. F. B. Gary, Circuit Judge.

I hope you can see your way clear, from the above statement of facts, to grant him a parole, during good behavior. If you would like to have any further information about the matter, you can take it up with most anyone in Greenwood. Mr. W. J. M. Anderson, of Greenwood, whom you possibly know, is familiar with the entire history of the case.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) R. A. COOPER, Solicitor."

Also the following communication from Judge Ernest B. Gary:

"His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina:

I am requested to recommend the parole of W. H. Verelle, who pleaded guilty to carbreaking and larceny before me at Greenwood, at the June term of Court of General Sessions, 1912, and sentenced by me to eighteen months in the Penitentiary at hard labor.

I cheerfully ask you to grant the young man a parole, during good behavior, and trust you will find your way clear to extend this clemency.

(Signed) FRANK B. GARY,

October 9, 1912.

Judge 8th Circuit."

In addition to these two communications, petition was presented, signed by a large number of the prominent citizens of Greenwood, including the Master, Superintendent of Education, Chief of Police, County Auditor, Hon. D. H. Magill, Sheriff McMillan, Dr. John B. Owens, Mayor Baker, J. V. Anderson, C. W. Creighton, L. H. Russell, H. P. Baker, W. A. Riley, J. C. Self, W. B. Clark, O. O. Smith, and many others.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, December 24, 1912.

WALKER, TOM (colored): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Abbeville county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Abbeville county.

Petition was presented, endorsed by Magistrate Joseph Hicks, Clerk of Court J. L. Perrin, and a large number of the best people of the community.

Clerk of Court Perrin says: "Tom is a good negro, and I feel satisfied he ought never to have been tried for the offense. I know you will make no mistake in granting the petition, and if said petition meets your approval, I will ask your endorsement of it."

I am reliably informed that Walker shot off his pistol through a window of his sister's home, and that the entire prosecution resulted from this, Walker shooting the weapon in a spirit of fun.

Upon the recommendation of the Clerk of Court of Abbeville county, and of Magistrate Hicks, and taking into consideration the petition presented, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, August 5, 1913.

WALLACE, BARNEY (white): Convicted at the September, 1912, term of Court for Darlington county, of manslaughter and carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to twelve years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The petition presented shows that the defendant is about twenty years of age; that he killed Dalton Gilbert in the defense of his own life. This petition is signed by B. L. Outlaw, J. O. Muldrow, T. D. Sligh, J. J. Cooley, J. E. Phillips, the Chief of Police, R. L. Glover, E. M. Lawman, Jas. R. Coggeshall, and by a large number of the citizens of Darlington and Lawman, and by nine of the jurors who tried the case. The girl who presented the petition states that she did not see the other jurors, because she took sick and was unable to proceed further with the petition.

The following affidavit was made by the sister of this defendant:

"State of South Carolina, Richland County.

Personally came Carrie Lee Gilbert, who says that she was the wife of Dalton Gilbert, who was killed by her brother, Barney Wallace; that Gilbert was a hard drinker and was very mean and abusive to her, and that his father caused considerable trouble between her and her husband, and that this difficulty grew out of the fact of Gilbert's drinking and maltreatment of her. That she has no father or mother living, and besides the care of herself, she has on her hands the care of a minor brother, and that she is not able to make a living and give a proper support to herself and her younger brother, and that she knows, notwithstanding the verdict of the jury, that her husband was at fault and caused her brother to kill him. That she has left Darlington and is going to try and get work in the city of Columbia, and that she asks for her brother's release in order that he may be allowed to help support her and her infant brother. That she has seen her brother and that he has promised her that he would live with them and help support her and her infant brother.

(Signed) CARRIE LEE GILBERT.

Sworn to before me this 21st day of April, 1913.

W. F. BLACKBURN, N. P. S. C." (L. S.)

In view of the fact of the condition that this girl and her little brother are left in, and so many of the jurors having signed the petition, along with such a large number of the people of Darlington, I deem it wise to parole this young man, hoping thereby that his young brother may be properly cared for and that this girl, who is thrown out upon the world, upon her own resources, may have some



care and protection, and particularly for her benefit is this petition granted, upon the following conditions:

During good behavior; and, upon the further condition that he live with his widowed sister, the wife of the party he killed, and aid her in the support of herself and their infant brother; and upon the further condition that he do not, at any time, return to the counties of Darlington or Lee, in the State of South Carolina. Parole dated April 21, 1913.

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WALTON, HOLLIE (colored): Convicted at the October, 1911, term of Court for Edgefield county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works.

Petition was presented by Mr. W. G. Strom, of Edgefield.

This boy, when the offense was committed, was about seventeen years of age, and by agreement with the Solicitor, entered a plea of manslaughter, and was sentenced to the Penitentiary or chain gang to serve three years.

The petition states that "he has served faithfully for two years and is a trusty on the gang."

The petition asking for his parole is signed by former Representative W. A. Strom, Hon. Jno. T. Edwards, Hon. S. McG. Simkins, W. S. Cogburn, Arthur S. Tompkins, Master S. M. Smith, and other prominent citizens of Edgefield county. An affidavit was also filed from M. A. Walker, who states that he "has charge of the chain gang; that this boy has made an exceptionally good prisoner; dutiful and obedient in every particular, and that several months ago he aided in the capture of one of the convicts, who had a very bad character, that had escaped, and alluded all of the posse, except this petitioner; that the escaped convict was armed with a stolen weapon; that this boy captured him and held him until help arrived, and the escaped prisoner was returned to the chain gang.

The following letter was received from Solicitor George Bell Timmerman in this case:

"Lexington, S. C., December 29, 1913.

Hollie Walton, Petition for Pardon.

Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I have carefully considered the petition in the above matter, and recommend that the prisoner be paroled, during good behavior, or upon such other terms as your Excellency, in your good judgment, may determine proper. I think the prisoner was guilty of

the offense to which he plead guilty, but I do not regard his case an aggravated one.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) GEO. BELL TIMMERMAN, Solicitor."

In view of the agreement with the Solicitor, the boy having served two years, made a good, faithful prisoner, and the further fact that he assisted in recapturing an escaped convict, also the endorsement of the Solicitor—he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, December 31, 1913.

WARE, ED (colored): Convicted before Magistrate J. D. Haselden, at Dillon, S. C., May 26, 1913, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Dillon county.

Petition was presented by Joe P. Lane, Esq., of Dillon, S. C., in which it is stated: "It is apparent to the jury and to the Court that he, the said defendant, had no intention of committing a crime, but simply through ignorance made a mistake, and was being used by other persons for their benefit in selling whiskey, he not having known the other parties more than two weeks previous to his apprehension, he only having allowed them to use his name to purchase a shipment of whiskey, he having received same at depot and delivered same to the other parties, thinking he had done no harm. And, whereas, the said defendant has never heretofore been suspected of having ever attempted to traffic or aid in trafficking in illicit whiskey, and he further never having been charged with any crime before and being a good, working negro." This petition is signed by C. L. Carmichael, foreman of the jury; LeRoy Williams, Frank H. Daniel, G. H. Bell, F. B. David and B. S. Bedenbaugh, jurors who tried the case, and by S. V. Lane, Sheriff of Dillon; W. McInnis, County Treasurer; J. D. Haselden, Magistrate, who tried the case; F. Lee Sitton, Rural Policeman, who prosecuted the case; Joe Cabell Davis, Judge of Probate, and by Mr. J. B. Gibson, Prosecuting Attorney in the case.

Upon the petition submitted, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, May 30, 1913.

WESTMORELAND, W. H. (white): Convicted at the October, 1912, term of Court for Cherokee county, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve ninety

days imprisonment upon the public works of Cherokee county or in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Hon. N. W. Hardin, member of the House of Representatives from Cerokee county, and is signed by nearly a hundred of the citizens of the neighborhood where this party lives, including the foreman and some of the other members of the jury. Along with the petition was submitted a transcript of the testimony in the case.

After reading the testimony, and in view of the petition presented, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition, should he ever again be convicted of violation of the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

WHITE, EDWARD (white): Convicted at the Fall, 1899, term of Court for Richland county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition was presented in February, 1911. At that time, however, I did not feel that I would be justified in releasing him until I knew more of the circumstances.

The petition states that his "mother is aged and infirm; has no other child to look to for support; wherefore, we most earnestly request that said sentence of life be commuted." This petition is signed by former Sheriff Coleman, William J. Cathcart, W. B. Lowrance, W. D. Starling, Senator J. Q. Marshall, Master A. D. McFadden, E. B. Luther, E. M. DuPre, R. B. Herbert (partner of Christie Benet), Clerk of Court Walker, John H. Stellings, foreman of the jury, and other members of the jury; Sheriff J. C. McCain, Commissioner F. S. Earle, and other prominent citizens of Columbia, with the following endorsement from the Solicitor:

"I recommend that he be paroled, during good behavior, and until he drinks liquor again.

(Signed) J. WM. THURMOND,

April 8, 1911.

Ex-Solicitor."

Hon. James Aldrich, the Judge who sat in this case, is dead.

Upon examination I find that this boy's mother is about eighty years old; that she is thrown upon the mercy of the world; therefore, in view of this fact, and the very strong petition presented, a



parole was granted to the defendant, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not drink, as a beverage or otherwise, intoxicating liquors of any kind whatsoever. Parole dated March 5, 1913.

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WILLIAMS, ALFRED (colored): Convicted at the April, 1908, term of General Sessions Court for York county, Judge R. C. Watts presiding, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced, April, 1908, to life imprisonment.

Petition presented by Hon. Thomas F. McDow, signed by the foreman and eight of the other jurors, with statement showing that one of the other jurors is dead and two are not now living in this State. The following endorsement is made by Associate Justice R. C. Watts: "I recommend pardon herein. (Signed) R. C. Watts, Presiding Judge." There is also a petition from the neighborhood in which the offense was committed, signed by Dr. White, Mr. Brown Neel, Mr. D. M. Hall, Mr. James F. Jackson, Mr. W. H. Windle, and other good citizens. It seems that this was a negro frolic, and there was the usual pistol play between two negroes, which resulted as usual, one getting killed.

Upon this showing, defendant is paroled, this April 29, 1913, on condition that he do not use intoxicating liquors, and during his good behavior.

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WILLIAMS, BUD (colored): Convicted at the June, 1912, term of Court for Anderson county, of manslaughter, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to three years imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county.

Petition was presented by Hon. J. W. Ashley, member of the House of Representatives from Anderson county, signed by himself, Clerk of Court Jas. N. Pearman, Col. C. E. Tolly, and other citizens of Anderson county, and was accompanied by the following statement from County Supervisor J. Mack King:

"Dr. Acker tells me that he (Bud Williams) has incipient tuberculosis. I think the county would be better off without him than with him."

The negro having served about half of the sentence imposed upon him, and in view of the petition presented in his behalf, and the above statement of Dr. Acker, as to his health, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, December 8, 1913.

WILLIAMS, E. E. (white): Convicted at the May, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months upon the public works of Greenville county.

Petition was presented by James H. Price, Esq., of Greenville, accompanied by a letter in which he states:

"I represented this man at the trial of his case. He was indicted on the usual accounts for violation of the dispensary law. The proof clearly showed that he was employed to run a near-beer stand on the outskirts of the city. His wages were \$1 per day. He sold the beer, which was sent out to him by his employer, a Mr. Reynolds. The officers made a seizure and found a barrel of Schlitz beer, some of which was in the ice box. The man did not seem to know that he was violating the law, but admitted that he had sold the beer which was sent out to him. The jury found him guilty on the first count, that of selling beer."

The petition states "we believe that the testimony showed that he was merely an employee and did not know he was selling real beer." This petition is signed by one hundred and sixty-one good citizens of the county of Greenville.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law, he shall be required to serve the sentence mentioned above. Parole dated July 2, 1913.

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WILLIAMS, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the February, 1906, term of Court for Richland county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The petition in this case states: "We believe he has been sufficiently punished for the offense committed by him, especially as in the encounter in which he killed Aaron Tolliver he received a dangerous pistol-shot wound, from which he suffers much." This is signed by L. C. Knox, W. C. Cathcart, Chief of Police; J. E. Ford, J. P. Darby, and many other citizens of Columbia.

The Solicitor states that he does not make any recommendation for the reason that he does not now recall the case.

In view of the petition and the fact that the defendant has served seven years and nine months imprisonment, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

WILLIAMS, JAMES (white); WILLIAMS, JASPER (white): Both of these defendants were convicted at the September, 1906, term of Court for Orangeburg county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years, each, imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented on May 16, 1911, by Hon. Thos. M. Raysor, of Orangeburg, S. C., accompanied by a communication in which he states:

"These men have already served more than four years in the State Penitentiary. The citizens in and around Springfield have petitioned your Excellency to pardon these men, as they think they have been sufficiently punished for the crime which they were convicted for. Jasper Williams did not fire the fatal shot, and simply claimed that he was present trying to prevent the difficulty that ensued between Benson Bolen, the deceased, and James Williams. I am sure that your Honor will give consideration to the petitions, and I hope you will find it consistent with your duty to grant both of these men a pardon. Very respectfully,

(Signed) THOS. M. RAYSOR."

At that time I did not feel that sufficient showing had been made to warrant executive clemency being shown these men; neither did I think that they had been sufficiently punished for the crime committed.

Additional petitions were presented on June 14, 1913, signed by T. J. Bolin, Supervisor for Orangeburg county; J. W. B. Choplin, G. B. Dominick, and others—the petitions presented in these cases bearing the signatures of over five hundred of the good citizens of Orangeburg county.

In addition, another petition is presented, signed by several of the jurors who tried the cases, in which they state:

"On September 12, 1906, we, the undersigned jurors, found these defendants, James and Jasper Williams, guilty of manslaughter. The evidence showed that there was some drinking and rowdyism at the place where these two young men were visiting. Under the evidence brought forward, we were compelled to find the verdict we did. Since these young men have entered upon the service of their sentence of ten years each, they have made exemplary convicts and they have been faithful and diligent in carrying out these sentences imposed upon them by the Court. Because of the splendid manner in which they have conducted themselves as prisoners, and because of their extreme youth at the time the offense was com-



mitted, one being nineteen years and the other twenty-two years old, respectively, and believing that the punishment thus far inflicted, one-half of the ten-year sentence having been served, has so far sobered and humiliated them that to now free them from the prison walls and from perhaps contamination by some contagious disease would be a merciful act, and at the same time would meet the ends of justice and would enable them to begin life anew. The lesson they have learned and been taught has been dear enough, and we feel sure that to temper justice with mercy in this instance would be fulfilling the spirit and intent of the law."

Taking into consideration the circumstances surrounding these cases, the very strong petitions presented in behalf of the defendants, and the further fact that they have served more than seven years of a ten-year sentence, they have been granted paroles, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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WILLIAMS, PRATT A. (white) : Convicted before Magistrate James H. Fowles, Jr., at Columbia, S. C., December 17, 1913, of assault and battery, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Richland county.

The following petition was presented:

"State of South Carolina, County of Richland.

*Ex parte* Annie Belle Williams,

*In re* Pratt A. Williams.

Petition for Conditional Pardon.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina:

The petition of your petitioner, Annie Belle Williams, would respectfully represent:

1. That on the 17th day of December, A. D. 1913, Pratt A. Williams was convicted before James H. Fowles, Esq., Magistrate in and for the county of Richland, upon a charge of assault and battery, at the instance of your petitioner, the wife of the said Pratt A. Williams, and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or serve thirty days on the chain gang.

2. That the reasons for said assault was that the same was done while the defendant in said cause was under the influence of drink and was not fully cognizant of his acts in the matter, which appears by the testimony brought out at the trial, a copy of which is hereto annexed.

3. That your petitioner is the wife of the said Pratt A. Williams, and that they are the parents of five children born to them; that three of the younger children are residing with your petitioner in the city of Columbia, and that two are with relatives in the State of Georgia; that both your petitioner and the said Pratt A. Williams are citizens of the State of Georgia; that your petitioner, Annie Belle Williams, is now working in the city of Columbia as a member of an orchestra in one of the local theatres in the city of Columbia, in the county and State first aforesaid; that she cannot hold her present position on account of her husband if he be permitted to remain in the county of Richland or in the State at any place wherever she may have employment; that she is forced to take some remedy in the premises; that your petitioner is willing and will pay the transportation expenses of the said Pratt A. Williams if the prayer of this petition be granted.

4. That in view of the foregoing facts, your petitioner, Annie Belle Williams, would respectfully request that the ends of justice would be best dealt out if said sentence as imposed was suspended upon condition that said defendant, Pratt A. Williams, immediately leave the State of South Carolina, and given a chance to return to his native State.

Wherefore, your petitioner prays that the said sentence rendered in the Magistrate's Court on December 17, 1913, in the case of *The State v. Pratt A. Williams*, be suspended upon the condition that the said defendant immediately depart from said State, and your petitioner will ever pray.

(Signed) ANNIE BELLE WILLIAMS.

Columbia, S. C., December 17, 1913."

"State of South Carolina, Richland County.

Personally appeared before me Mrs. Annie Belle Williams, who, being duly sworn, says that she has read the foregoing petition; that the same is true of her own knowledge; that the reason this petition is presented is as and for the purposes as therein represented.

(Signed) ANNIE BELLE WILLIAMS.

Sworn to before me this the 17th day of December, A. D. 1913.

(Signed) J. C. TOWNSEND, (L. S.)

Notary Public for S. C."

"State of South Carolina, County of Richland.

I, Pratt A. Williams, being the same as is mentioned in the foregoing petition, do hereby represent that if the prayer of the said peti-

tion be granted, and said conditional pardon issued, that I will abide by the terms and conditions thereof.

(Signed) PRATT A. WILLIAMS.

Sworn to before me this the 18th day of December, A. D. 1913.

(Signed) J. C. TOWNSEND, (L. S.)  
Notary Public for S. C."

"Testimony:

*The State against Pratt A. Williams.*

December 17, 1913.

Warrant read.

Defendant pleads: Not guilty.

Mrs. Annie Belle Williams, being sworn, says:

Mr. Williams struck me Saturday on Assembly street. He has threatened to kill me with that stick over in Mr. Townsend's office.

*Cross-Examination.*

I am willing to overlook the matter if he drink no liquor or under condition that he leave the State.

(Signed) ANNIE BELLE WILLIAMS.

Defense:

Pratt A. Williams, sworn:

I was under the influence of liquor. We had words and I put my hand over her mouth. Yesterday in Mr. Townsend's office I found out what she was after, and stated to her I felt like killing her with a stick and blowing my brains out.

(Signed) PRATT A. WILLIAMS."

This petition was accompanied by the following letter from Attorney J. C. Townsend:

"Columbia, S. C., December 17, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: In the matter of the petition of Mrs. Annie Belle Williams, which I herewith present to you, I will state that Mrs. Williams, on yesterday appealed to me as one of the members of one of our local benevolent societies, for some remedy for protection to her against the violence of her husband, whereupon her said husband was arrested, and the sentence as set forth in the petition was passed at a trial had in the matter today, in the Magistrate's Court.

I would state that I have no personal interest in this matter, nor will I derive any benefits whatsoever therefrom, except that I may feel proud to render such assistance as it might be in my power so to



do by virtue of appeals to our Order, of which she has two brothers a member thereof.

Trusting that you may see your way clear to grant the prayer of this petition, I am, Respectfully,

(Signed) J. C. TOWNSEND."

This seems to me very much like an effort on the part of this man to be relieved from the support of his children, and very much on the part of the wife to secure a legal separation. However, if it will add anything to the happiness of either, or both, of them, I have no objection.

Parole has been granted the defendant, upon the condition that he leave the State of South Carolina, and never return. Should he ever return, he shall be required to serve the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated December 18, 1913.

WILLIAMS, PRINCE. (colored): Convicted at the June, 1911, term of Court for Florence county, of burglary, and sentenced to fifteen months imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Florence county.

The petition presented shows that this is a one-legged negro; that he had no criminal intent in entering the premises, and that the sentence was very much in excess of what the jury expected. Petition requesting clemency is signed by foreman of the jury and other members of the jury, by a large number of prominent citizens of the town of Florence, including ex-Senator William Ilderton, Dr. E. W. Matthews, and a large number of the other representative citizens of the county of Florence. Also, by the County Auditor, City Magistrate, Probate Judge, Clerk of Court, Sheriff Burch, Magistrate Copeland, and other officials.

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled, during good behavior, February 22, 1913.

WILLIAMS, SAMUEL K. (white): Convicted at the October, 1908, term of Court for Charleston county, of violation of an act providing for punishment for safe-cracking, and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following communications were received from Judge George E. Prince in regard to this case:

"Anderson, S. C., June 6, 1911.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: In looking through my desk this morning I came across the letters of S. K. Williams, convict, and St. Julian Jervey, who was Solicitor at the time of his conviction, and it has occurred to me that these communications ought to be submitted to your consideration.

I would especially invite your attention to the letter from Williams and would earnestly urge you to do something for this man whose sentence is on my conscience. I can't help feeling that I gave this man a sentence entirely too severe. I hope you may see your way clear to either parole or pardon. I cheerfully assume all responsibility for this recommendation. Yours truly,

(Signed) GEORGE E. PRINCE."

"Yorkville, S. C., September 12, 1913.

Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I am taking the liberty of inclosing for your consideration a letter I have just received from one S. K. Williams, who is now confined in the State Penitentiary, serving a sentence of fifteen years, passed upon him by me at Charleston, S. C., in the fall of 1908, for the crime of having in his possession burglar's tools. I first gave him ten years and one month, and because of some insolence in open Court I added four years and eleven months. At the time I passed said sentence, under my construction of the statute in such case provided, I was of opinion that if I gave him ten years or less, I would have to put him on the county chain gang, and felt certain from his past record that he would make his escape from the gang in a few days. Hence, in order to make sure of him, I sent him to the Penitentiary, as above stated. He then became very angry and insulted me in open Court. In order to punish his contempt of Court, I added to his sentence as stated above. When I first sentenced him my purpose was to ask the Governor to pardon him after a few years. I thought this course wiser than putting him on the chain gang, where I was certain he would remain for only a short time before escaping. I am now thoroughly convinced that he has been adequately punished for any and all offenses committed in this State, and I join him in earnestly urging your Excellency to hear and grant his prayer for commutation of sentence to five years. It might be best to parole him. Please do one or the other, as I now feel that I gave him too severe a sentence, and if I now had the

authority to do so I would with cheerful alacrity suspend the remainder of said sentence. This is the same man about whom you and I had some correspondence a few years since.

If you have not the time or patience to investigate this matter fully, then please refer it to Pardon Board, but I would infinitely prefer to have your personal consideration of this man's case.

Yours truly,

(Signed) GEORGE E. PRINCE.

P. S.—Please excuse haste, I am writing in open Court."

In view of the earnest request from the Judge, Hon. George E. Prince, who tried and sentenced this man to the Penitentiary, as above set forth, the defendant having served five years of the sentence imposed upon him, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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WILSON, GEORGE (colored): Convicted at the April, 1898, term of General Sessions Court for Newberry county, Judge W. C. Benet presiding, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

In this case the evidence of all the witnesses, both for the State and for the defense, was to the effect that this poor, unfortunate negro was subject to epileptic fits. On the day of the commission of the offense of which he was convicted, he and his wife and several other negroes were on their way from their house to the field to go to their usual work. This negro was walking along with his arm around his wife, and the whole crowd was singing. George and his wife were walking some little distance ahead of the other negroes, and as he went through a hot sand bed he was suddenly taken with one of these severe fits, threw his wife into the road, and grabbed a piece of iron or rock which was lying near and struck her in the head, causing her death. Immediately upon striking the blow, the testimony shows, he himself fell backwards, and for some minutes suffered fearfully from the effects of this epilepsy. The defense put up was insanity. The jury convicted him of murder and recommended him to mercy, whereupon the Judge sentenced him to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

There certainly was no middle ground. If the negro was responsible for his offense it was a cold-blooded, calculated murder, and he should have been hanged. If he was not responsible on account of this epileptic fit, he should not have been convicted of any offense,



but should have been confined in the State Hospital for the Insane for treatment.

However, he has been confined in the State Penitentiary at hard labor since the 18th day of April, 1898, which, in my opinion, is ample punishment, in any view of the case, for the offense which he committed.

Therefore, in a spirit of fairness and of mercy I have this day granted this poor, unfortunate negro, who has no one to help him, and no one to speak for him, a parole, during his good behavior. Parole dated November 25, 1913.

WISE, LAWRENCE (white): Convicted at the October, 1911, term of Court for Aiken county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment upon the public works or in the State Penitentiary.

The following petition was received from the twelve jurors who tried the case:

"State of South Carolina, County of Aiken.

We, the undersigned jurors, who sat upon the trial of the State against Lawrence Wise, recommend to his Excellency, the Governor, to grant Mr. Wise a parole during his good behavior. The circumstances of the case induce us to do so, and also the fact that he has been in prison for some time, and the further fact that we are informed that he behaves himself well, and we think that the demands of the law will be satisfied by the imprisonment which he has had, and that your Excellency will be justified in granting him a parole.

(Signed) G. S. COOK,  
F. E. CORTEZ,  
W. S. BURCKHALTER,  
S. M. ANDERSON,  
W. W. DRAKEFORD,  
WALTER POOL,  
G. W. L. GARVIN,  
E. H. BRODIE,  
JNO. R. JORDAN,  
J. M. DUBOSE,  
G. W. BYARS,  
E. SEIGLER."

Also, the following endorsement from the Judge, S. W. G. Shipp:

"I do not think the defendant made out a case of self-defense. He was very drunk at the time of the homicide, and I think the jury was amply justified in the verdict. If the prisoner shows evidence of reform, I think the degree of punishment might well be somewhat shortened.

(Signed) S. W. G. SHIPP,

May 20, 1913.

Presiding Judge."

Following letter from Chief Commissioner Staubes, of Aiken county:

"Aiken, S. C., May 5, 1913.

Honorable Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: As Chief Commissioner, I ask to recommend to your Excellency to parole Lawrence Wise, now on the chain gang of Aiken county. He is sentenced for a term of years for manslaughter. He is a manly fellow, and ever since he has been on the chain gang, by the best reports which I have received from those in charge, he has behaved himself well and is worthy of your consideration. He has a family dependent upon him for a living, a wife and young children, and I believe he will behave himself in the future.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) JOHN STAUBES,

Chief Commr., A. C."

Following letter from Col. D. S. Henderson also submitted:

"Aiken, S. C., May 5, 1913.

Honorable Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: I herewith send you some papers asking for the parole of Lawrence Wise, who was convicted of manslaughter last year before Judge G. W. Shipp, with a jury. The facts of the case are truthfully stated in the petition which is sent to you, and accompanying the papers is a petition of every member of the jury that you parole him. I join in that petition. I do not think Wise ought to have been convicted. It was a fearful difficulty into which he got unwittingly and the circumstances are as stated in the petition. I believe Judge Shipp would recommend a parole and also Solicitor Gunter, but I do not know. However, you are backed by some of the best citizens of the county and by the entire jury.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) D. S. HENDERSON."

Also, the following communication from Mr. John A. May, of Graniteville, S. C.:

"Graniteville, S. C., May 5, 1913.

Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: I have been requested by a goodly number of your friends here to ask you to pardon Lawrence Wise. He was a good citizen and one of our boys. We do not believe he killed John Duncan without a cause. There was no eyewitness. I believe it was self-defense, as he claimed. Grant this pardon and you will please your friends here. Your true friend,

(Signed) JOHN A. MAY."

Also, the following extract from communication from Superintendent and Guards of chain gang:

"I had three white convicts to escape on the night of December 15, 1912. I left Lawrence Wise at the camp in charge, and after a five-hour race, I returned back to my camp with the two captured convicts. Lawrence Wise had taken perfect care of the camp. After reading this letter I hope you will consider the convict he has been and please release him and let him go home to his wife and helpless children.

(Signed) R. L. CHANCEY,

Supt. Gang No. 2, Aiken County, S. C.:

HENRY BRYCE, Guard;

E. W. WALTON, Guard;

MITCHEL TAVELL, Guard."

In addition to the above, a very strong petition was presented in which it is stated "that they (Wise and the deceased, Duncan) got into a sudden quarrel over the settlement of an account; that Duncan threw an iron bar at him and that Duncan started for a gun which was found in the room and always kept there loaded, and that he (Wise) in defense of his life seized a pistol that was not carried on his person, but was always kept on the table at which he and Duncan were sitting and shot him. The testimony of Dr. Shellhouse, as to the situation of the wounds, showed that he must have been shot as Wise testified and not as was surmised."

This petition is signed by a very large number of the citizens of Aiken county, many of whom live in the immediate community where the offense was committed.

In addition to this, the testimony taken at the time was presented. This being matters of fact for the consideration of the jury, they



now having given mature and careful consideration thereto, presented the petition asking that this man be paroled.

Upon the showing made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he do not, at any time, drink any intoxicating liquors or beverages, except upon the written advice and prescription of a practicing physician. Parole dated May 22, 1913.

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WRIGHT, ARTHUR (colored): Convicted at the June, 1906, term of Court for Richland county, of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Richland county.

Petition in this case was presented by Mr. Henry F. Koon, of Irmo, S. C., May 24, 1911. At that time I did not think the defendant had been sufficiently punished for the crime which he had committed, therefore the petition was placed in suspense. He has now served more than seven years of a ten-year sentence.

The petition is signed by some of the jurors who tried the case, the late W. G. Childs, J. C. McCain, W. E. Lorick, J. A. Boyd, E. A. Lorick and other good, reputable citizens of the county of Richland.

In view of the long term the defendant has served, and the strong petition presented in his behalf, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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WRIGHT, JOHN (colored): Convicted at the October, 1910, term of Court for Lancaster county, of manslaughter and carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to seven years and six months in the State Penitentiary or on the public works of Lancaster county, at hard labor, and to pay a fine of \$200.

Petition in this case was presented by Senator T. J. Strait, of Lancaster, S. C.

This is the first time I have ever heard of a man being sentenced to pay a fine when he had been convicted of manslaughter. He was tried, however, before Ernest Moore, Esq., and possibly it is the usual practice in that section of the State.

Seven of the jurors sign the petition, in which they state that the defendant had been sufficiently punished and ask that he be released.

There is another petition asking for his release, signed by quite a number of the citizens of the neighborhood where the offense was

committed, and still another petition signed by many of the citizens of the town of Lancaster.

The defendant having served three years of the sentence imposed upon him, and in view of the petitions presented, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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WOOD, ELLIS (colored): Convicted at the October, 1909, term of Court for Darlington county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Darlington county.

The petition presented in this case is as follows:

"The undersigned citizens of this State earnestly petition you to pardon Ellis Woods, a worthy and humble old negro, about fifty-five years old, who, on October 6, 1909, at Darlington, S. C., was sentenced to life imprisonment after conviction on a charge of felonious homicide. We think that an investigation of the circumstances of the case, and of the prisoner's deportment and conduct since his incarceration, will convince your Excellency that the man has suffered enough to expiate the offense charged and that he is entirely worthy of having clemency extended to him."

This petition is signed by Julian Murr, juror; M. B. Huggins, W. M. Copeland, W. M. McMillan, E. M. Lowman, Paul Simms, Dr. G. L. Boykin, and many other good citizens.

Another petition was presented in which clemency is asked, signed by five other jurors, Hon. C. Alexander, R. J. Scarborough, Robt. L. Spears, R. C. Huggins, cashier; C. M. Spears, Dr. T. W. Reynolds, and a large number of the other citizens of Darlington county.

In a communication dated September 26, 1913, in writing about this case, Mr. E. B. Boykin states: "I served on the jury at the inquest over the negro he killed, and while there is no doubt that he killed her, I am sure that the actual killing was an accident. This girl that he killed was guilty of some misconduct that he was punishing her for, by whipping her, and a stroke on the head killed her. Considering all of these circumstances and the splendid record of the old negro before he got into this trouble, I sincerely hope that he will be pardoned."

Solicitor Spears made the following endorsement upon the papers:

"Ellis Woods was an exceptionally good negro, and if his prison record is good I recommend a parole on good behavior and total abstinence from intoxicating beverages. His wife was convicted at

the same time and if her prison record is good, I see no reason why she should not be paroled. (Signed) J. MONROE SPEARS."

In view of the strong petitions and recommendations made in behalf of this old negro, he having been convicted of killing his own daughter, while chastising her, and the fact that he has served over four years for the crime committed, he has been granted a parole, during good behavior, November 25, 1913.

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WOOD, GEORGE W. (white): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Union county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$500.

This defendant's sentence was commuted to a fine of \$100 or twelve months imprisonment upon the public works, on May 19, 1913, the reasons therefor being set forth at the time, and are incorporated under "Commutations."

It is now represented to me that this defendant is unable to raise the sum of \$100; that he has served more than four months of the sentence imposed; has made a good prisoner, and has been sufficiently punished for the crime committed. Upon the representations made, the defendant was granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that he refrain from the use of alcoholic liquors or beverages, except upon the written prescription of a physician; should he violate this parole he shall be required to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated June 12, 1913.

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WORTHY, SIMS (colored): Convicted at the November, 1913, term of Court for Chester county, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve six months upon the public works of Chester county.

The following petition was presented in behalf of this defendant:

"State of South Carolina, County of Chester.

*Ex parte* Sims Worthy—Petition for Pardon.

To His Excellency, Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.:

Your petitioners would respectfully show:

1. That Sims Worthy was indicted for violation of the dispensary law in said county and State; that he plead guilty to the charge of selling one quart of whiskey; that he was sentenced by his Honor, George E. Prince, presiding Judge, on November 7, 1913, at hard



labor for six months on the public works of Chester county, South Carolina, or to pay a fine of \$100; that Solicitor J. K. Henry, Esq., was the prosecuting officer for the State; that the record of the said case is now on file in the Clerk's office, being Judgment Roll No. 3496.

2. That the said Sims Worthy was charged with selling and storing liquor; that two witnesses were named on the indictment, to wit: C. Y. Young, who was a witness in numerous other whiskey cases, and V. W. Brannon, who is unknown to your petitioners and is not generally known in the county; that the said Sims Worthy admitted that he had at the earnest solicitation of these men, whom he did not know, let them have a quart of whiskey, which was all the whiskey in his house at the time and which did not belong to him at all, but was left there by a friend, and which was for personal use and not intended for sale, but because of the entreaties, persuasions and inducements of these parties, he let them have the whiskey and took the money which they insisted upon him taking, and that he did not keep the money himself, but gave it to the party who owned the whiskey. Under these circumstances he was technically guilty of violating the law, and, therefore, was compelled to plead guilty, although he had no criminal intent and no purpose to break the law.

3. That at the same term of Court, a number of other cases for the alleged violation of the dispensary law were tried with the same witnesses testifying before the petit jury and in the majority of these cases the jury acquitted the defendants, which shows that the testimony of the State's witnesses was insufficient to convict; your petitioners verily believe that had the said Sims Worthy not plead guilty but stood trial that the jury would have acquitted him, but his case was the first one called for trial and he plead guilty because he had no defense to the technical charges of selling whiskey and was advised that the intent was not an element of the offense.

4. That the fine of \$100 or six months imprisonment is excessive and a hardship upon the said Sims Worthy upon these facts and circumstances and that he now craves executive clemency and a release from the burden of this sentence thus imposed upon him.

Wherefore, your petitioners pray that the said Sims Worthy be pardoned or paroled during good behavior, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, etc.

(Signed) GASTON & HAMILTON,

Chester, S. C., December 2, 1913. Attys. for Sims Worthy."

"Sims Worthy is employed by me as a family servant for some time and has a good reputation. I never heard of him selling liquor, and I hereby join in the petition.

(Signed) J. G. BARRON."

Upon statement of the facts surrounding this case, as set forth in the above petition, the defendant has been granted a parole, during good behavior, and upon the further condition that should he ever again be convicted of violating the dispensary law he shall be required to serve the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated December 4, 1913.

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YOUNG, WESLEY (colored): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Fairfield county, of violation of the dispensary law (two cases), and sentenced to six months and eighteen months, respectively, upon the public works of said county.

Petition was presented by Hon. G. W. Ragsdale, of Winnsboro, S. C., in which it is stated "the convict is a boy seventeen years old and is of very weak mind, almost void of intelligence, and was led into the commission of the offense by other parties. He has served fourteen months of the sentence, and the undersigned submit most respectfully that the purposes of justice have been fully met." The petition is signed by Hon. G. W. Ragsdale, Hon. W. W. Dixon, Mr. J. E. McDonald, Jr., Rev. Oliver Johnson, Sheriff A. D. Hood, and other prominent citizens of Fairfield county.

Upon the petition presented, and the fact that the defendant is only a boy, seventeen years of age, and has served about fourteen months of a two-year sentence, he was granted a parole, during good behavior, June 24, 1913.

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ZEIGLER, DAN T. (white): Convicted at the February, 1912, term of Court for Aiken county, of forgery, and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

The following petition was presented by Hon. G. T. Holley, member of the House of Representatives from Aiken county:

County of Aiken.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease:

The petition of the undersigned respectfully shows to your Excellency:

\* That on February 5, 1912, one Dan T. Zeigler, a white man, plead guilty in Aiken county in five cases to the charge of forgery. He was sentenced by Honorable R. E. Copes, presiding Judge, to five years in the Penitentiary or on the chain gang, which, of course, is the least sentence that could be imposed for the five charges. The total amount received by this party was about one hundred (\$100) dollars, and as he has been in the Penitentiary for about fourteen months, we feel that the punishment has been sufficient and that the dignity of the law has been upheld. We, therefore, petition your Excellency to grant to the said Dan T. Zeigler a pardon, or perhaps it would be better to parole him during good behavior, and your petitioners will ever pray, etc."

Signed by Wesley Yonce, County Treasurer; H. H. Howard, Sheriff; Daniel Crosland, Edgar A. Brown, D. S. Henderson, Senator John F. Williams, Auditor Dave H. Wise, Master L. M. C. Oliveros, Clerk of Court John W. Dunbar, ex-Sheriff T. P. Rabon, J. Floyd Courtney, Member of the City Council of Aiken; T. J. Southall, Representative G. T. Holley, and other prominent citizens of Aiken county.

Solicitor R. L. Gunter submitted a letter, dated April 2, 1913, as follows:

"His Excellency, Gov. Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: A petition has been shown me for the commutation or pardon of one Dan T. Zeigler, who plead guilty to five charges of forgery on February 5, 1912, and was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Hon. G. T. Holley was the prosecutor in these cases and he thinks that the punishment which young Zeigler has endured is sufficient for the crimes which he committed, and while he does not desire a pardon, he wishes that you parole Zeigler during good behavior.

Mr. Zeigler is a young man of good family, and I hope that the time which he has served has reformed him, and that he will lead a better life hereafter; therefore, in accordance with Mr. Holley's wishes, I recommend that you grant him a parole and release him from his imprisonment.

I do this to save Mr. Holley time in having the petition sent back to me by you, as is usually done in these matters.

Trusting that you are enjoying the best of health, I remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) R. L. GUNTER."



"I endorse fully the foregoing.

(Signed) JOHN F. WILLIAMS."

Upon this showing, the defendant was paroled upon the condition that he leave the State of South Carolina within twenty-four (24) hours and never return; should he ever return to the State of South Carolina he shall be arrested and recommitted to the Penitentiary to serve the remainder of the sentence above mentioned. Parole dated April 16, 1913.

## COMMUTATIONS GRANTED.

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ALLEN, HENRY (colored): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Barnwell county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to one year imprisonment upon the public works or pay a fine of \$150.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"37.

Columbia, S. C., July 4, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Henry Allen, Barnwell county, convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill, sentenced one year or \$150 fine, March 19, 1913.

Judge Spain and Solicitor Gunter both recommend that this sentence be reduced to six months. Ten of the trial jury and Sheriff Morris and other influential citizens join in the prayer for clemency. Under this showing we recommend parole during good behavior.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons."

Upon the above recommendation, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$50 or imprisonment upon the public works of Barnwell county for a period of six (6) months. Commutation dated July 8, 1913.

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BOWEN, ALLEN (colored): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Pickens county, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months upon the public works of Pickens county.

The following communication was received from Mr. Jno. C. Carey:

"Pickens, S. C., August 6, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: I beg to hand you herewith petition signed by the County Board of Commissioners asking that you commute the sentence of one Allen Bowen, sentenced to serve three months on

the gang or to pay a fine of \$100. We desire that you commute this sentence to a fine of \$50, as Bowen is an old and crippled negro and would not be able to do any work if sent to the gang. I am also enclosing a letter signed by B. B. LaBoon, the constable who caught Bowen, asking that you commute this sentence.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) JNO. C. CAREY."

"To His Excellency, Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina:

We, the County Board of Commissioners for Pickens county, respectfully ask that you commute the sentence of Allen Bowen, who was convicted at the February term of Court for Pickens county, for transporting whiskey, and sentenced to three months on the chain gang, to begin serving sentence October 1, 1913, with the alternative of paying a fine of \$100. We ask that you commute this sentence to a fine of \$50, which he is able and willing to pay. Bowen is an aged and crippled negro, and would not be worth anything to the county on the gang, as he is physically unable to do any work.

Respectfully,

(Signed) JAMES B. CRAIG, Supervisor;

G. W. BOWEN, Co. Comm'r;

J. M. LAWRENCE, Co. Comm'r."

"To His Excellency, Hon. Cole L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina:

I respectfully ask that you commute the sentence of Allen Bowen, who was convicted for transporting whiskey at the February term of Court for Pickens county, and sentenced to serve three months on the chain gang, with the alternative of paying a fine of \$100. I ask that you commute this sentence to a fine of \$50, as Bowen is an infirm and crippled negro, and would be a burden on the county if he is made to serve his sentence on the gang, as he is physically unable to do any work.

(Signed) B. B. LABOON,

Special Detective."

Upon the above showing, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$50 or three months imprisonment upon the public works of Pickens county. Commutation dated August 12, 1913.

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BROWDER, T. R. (white): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Clerendon county, of assault and battery with



intent to kill, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Clarendon county.

Petition was presented by Hon. Harvey W. Mitchum, State Dispensary Auditor, in which it is stated: "That the facts in the case are as follows: That the father of your petitioner got in a difficulty with Olia Flud on the morning of the 12th day of May, 1913. That in the afternoon of the same day the difficulty was renewed, whereupon your petitioner happened up and seeing the said Flud going at the father of your petitioner with an open knife in his hand, told him to stop, whereupon the said Olia Flud turned and made at this petitioner with the said knife, and this petitioner shot at him in self-defense. That the said Olia Flud has got entirely over the effects of the wound. Whereupon your petitioner would respectfully ask your Excellency to grant him a pardon or parole as in the judgment of your Excellency seems best."

It seems that this was a general fight and that the other parties engaged in it were each fined \$50.

The petition is signed by one hundred and thirty-four of the good citizens of Clarendon county.

Upon the showing made, and in view of the fact that the other parties mixed up in the row were fined \$50, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$50 or two years imprisonment upon the public works of Clarendon county; and upon the further condition that he refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages or liquors. Commutation dated October 10, 1913.

DUKES, RUSH (colored): Convicted at the November, 1909, term of Court for Bamberg county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

This negro was convicted of killing another negro; has made a good prisoner; I have seen him working around the Mansion Yard, and was impressed with the performance of the duties assigned to him. After a personal investigation of the matter, I have thought it nothing but right and proper that the sentence of the defendant should be reduced to a term of ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary at hard labor; therefore, on the 29th day of March, 1913, I commuted the sentence of the defendant to ten years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary at hard labor.

FERGUSON, WILLIAM (colored): Convicted at the May, 1910, term of Court for Anderson county, of disturbing a religious worship, and sentenced to six months imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county or in the State Penitentiary.

The following petition was presented:

"Anderson, S. C., November 3, 1913.

To His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina.

Sir: We, the undersigned, citizens of the county of Anderson, S. C., respectfully ask your Excellency to commute a sentence passed upon one William Ferguson, colored. He was tried at a special term of the Court of General Sessions, 1910, along with six others, on a charge of disturbing religious worship. He was sentenced by Judge McDonald, special Judge, to serve six months, and we desire that the sentence be commuted to the payment of a fine of \$100. William was not present at the trial; all of the other defendants who were present were acquitted; but even if he were guilty of the charge, it appears that he has reformed and is now a preacher. We submit herewith a written statement from the officials of the church, where the alleged disturbance took place, exonerating William Ferguson. We respectfully petition your Excellency to grant the relief sought.

(Signed) J. D. SITTON, Magistrate S. C.;  
JOE M. H. ASHLEY, Sheriff, A. C.;  
A. W. STEPP,  
J. S. ACKER,  
J. OLIN SANDERS, Deputy Sheriff;  
J. G. HARDIN, Coroner, A. C."

"We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that William Ferguson did not do anything unruly.

(Signed) SAMUEL GAMBLE,  
O. L. HUNT, Secretary;  
W. M. BRAZILE,  
E. BROWN,

November 2, 1913.

Leaders of John Wesley Church."

Upon the petition presented, and the certificate of the "Leaders" of the church referred to, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$100 or six months imprisonment upon the public works of Anderson county. Commutation dated November 8, 1913.

GOODWIN, RACHAEL (white): Convicted at the June, 1913, term of Court for Lexington county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$90 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of said county.

The Board of Pardons, on July 3d, made the following recommendation in this case:

"17. Columbia, S. C., July 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* Rachael Goodwin; Lexington; violation of the dispensary law; thirty days or \$90; June 18, 1913.

It appears to us that a fine of \$90 as an alternative to a thirty days sentence is out of proportion, and we would recommend that it be thirty days or a fine of \$25. Senator Sharpe has a very strong endorsement in this woman's behalf.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;  
D. H. MAGILL,  
JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the sentence imposed upon the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$25 or thirty days upon the public works of Lexington county. Commutation dated July 7, 1913.

HUGHES, J. G.: Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Pickens county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$200 or to serve five months upon the public works of Pickens county.

The following communications were presented from the County Commissioners and Supervisor of Pickens county:

"Pickens, S. C., October 7, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Governor: I beg to enclose you herein a request signed by the County Board of Commissioners of Pickens county asking that you commute the sentence of one J. G. Hughes, who was convicted of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, at the September term of Court, in this county, and sentenced to serve a period of five months on the county chain gang or pay a fine of \$200, to a fine



of \$100, which he says he is able and willing to pay. The reasons for this action are set forth in said petition.

Thanking you for your attention, I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) JNO. C. CAREY, Clerk."

"Pickens, S. C., October 7, 1913.

State of South Carolina, County of Pickens.

We, the undersigned County Board of Commissioners for Pickens county, do most respectfully petition your Excellency that you reduce the sentence of one J. G. Hughes, who was convicted of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature at the September term of Court, in Pickens county, and sentenced to serve a period of five months on the chain gang of said county or pay a fine of \$200, to a fine of \$100, which said party is able and willing to pay. In case he is made to serve his sentence of five months on the gang, he would be a burden to the county, as he is physically unable to do hard manual labor, and the county prefers that he pay a fine of \$100 instead of serving this sentence, which he will have to do unless his fine is lowered from \$200 to \$100.

Most respectfully submitted,

(Signed) JAMES B. CRAIG, Supervisor;  
JAMES M. LAWRENCE, Co. Com.;  
G. W. BOWEN, Co. Commissioner."

Upon the above statement of facts, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$100 or five months imprisonment on the public works of Pickens county. Commutation dated October 9, 1913.

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LARK, GEORGE (colored): Convicted at the September, 1913, term of Court for Laurens county, of violation of the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$250 or to serve eight months upon the public works of Laurens county.

The Board of Pardons, on October 3, 1913, made the following recommendation in this case:

"Columbia, S. C., October 3, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* George Lark; Laurens; violation of dispensary law; \$250 or eight months in prison; September, 1913.

Hon. W. B. Knight was heard in behalf of the petitioner. We are of the opinion that this is rather a heavy sentence for the crime

named, and as it was the first offense of the petitioner, we respectfully recommend the sentence be reduced one-half; namely, \$125 fine, or eight months service.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

D. H. MAGILL,

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary,  
Board of Pardons."

In view of the recommendation, above quoted, from the Board of Pardons, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$125, or eight months imprisonment upon the public works of Laurens county, on November 25, 1913.

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MARTIN, ROSA (colored): Convicted at the June, 1913, term of Court for Greenwood county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months upon the public works of Greenwood county.

Petition was presented by Hon. C. C. Featherstone, of Greenwood, in which he states: "A negro woman, by the name of Rosa Martin, was convicted at our last term of Court for selling whiskey, and sentenced by Judge DeVore to three months on the chain gang or to pay a fine of \$100. From what I can learn, she is really being made a 'cat's paw' of for some other person."

Mr. Geo. T. Magill, in writing of this case, states: "I feel sure that it would be better for the county if her fine could be lightened than for her to serve on the gang. Then, too, as she is not an old offender, I am sure the ends of justice would be fully met by reducing the punishment."

Rural Policeman J. T. McDowell, who prosecuted the case against this woman, states: "Under the peculiar circumstances of her case, this being the first offense, so far as I can ascertain, I am inclined to recommend that her punishment be reduced. It would be less expensive to the county for her to pay a fine of that amount than for her to have to go on the county gang. Her services would probably be worth very little as a laborer on the gang."

In view of the above mentioned recommendation, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$25 or three months imprisonment upon the public works of Greenwood county, on July 3, 1913.

MOORE, L. E. (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Oconee county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve three months upon the public works of Oconee county.

Petition was presented, signed by ten of the jurors who tried the case; by a large number of the citizens of Oconee county, including the Clerk of Court and Sheriff Davis, in which they ask that the defendant be paroled. However, from the statements of the Judge and Solicitor, I do not think sufficient showing has been made upon which to grant a parole, but have this day commuted the sentence to a fine of twenty-five (\$25) dollars or imprisonment upon the public works of Oconee county for three months. Commutation dated June 27, 1913.

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MOOREHEAD, JOHN (white): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Oconee county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$250 or to serve six months in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Oconee county.

A petition was presented by Deputy Sheriff H. P. Holleman, of Oconee county, in which it is stated: "We feel that the ends of justice would be meted out and the county properly protected and be a great favor to the father of this boy if your Excellency could see proper to commute this sentence to a fine of \$100. This petition is signed by John F. Craig, Clerk of Court; John W. Davis, Sheriff; C. R. D. Burns, D. A. Smith, Auditor; M. C. Long, Major Wm. J. Stribling, and others, and is accompanied by the following letter from the Clerk of Court:

"Walhalla, S. C., April 3, 1913.

His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: At the November term of Court, 1912, of General Sessions for Oconee county, John Moorehead was charged with violation of the dispensary law, and by consent of the Solicitor, P. A. Bonham, and the Judge presiding, his Honor J. W. DeVore, Moorehead plead guilty of the charge and was sentenced to pay a fine of two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars, or to serve six months in the State Penitentiary, or for a like period upon the public works of Oconee county at hard labor.

The Judge suspended all of the sentence except fifty (\$50) dollars, and gave Moorehead until the March term of Court, 1913, to pay the fifty (\$50) dollars.



By some oversight, he failed to pay the fine at the time directed by the Court, and now, I do not feel that I could take the money without a commutation of his sentence.

Moorehead's father is suffering from blood poison, and is hardly able to get about, and the main source of his income is from the labor of this boy; and I am satisfied that if his sentence is commuted, it will be satisfactory to the people of Oconee county.

I hope your Excellency may see your way clear to commute his sentence to a fine of \$100.

Very truly,

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAIG, Clerk of Court."

Solicitor Bonham endorsed the petition as follows:

"I recommend the commutation.

(Signed) P. A. BONHAM, Solicitor 10th Circuit."

Judge DeVore made the following recommendation:

"I hereby recommend the commutation.

(Signed) J. W. DEVORE, Circuit Judge.

April 14, 1913."

Upon this petition, and the recommendations of the Judge and Solicitor, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$100, or six months imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, or upon the public works of Oconee county, April 15, 1913.

MORRIS, STAKE (colored): Convicted at the January, 1913, term of Court for Greenville county, of murder, and sentenced to be electrocuted on the 28th day of March, 1913.

This defendant was convicted of killing another negro. I am naturally against electrocuting or hanging one negro for killing another, because, if a man had two fine mules running loose in a lot and one went mad and kicked and killed the other he certainly would not take his gun and shoot the other mule, but would take that mule and work it and try to get another mule; therefore, I believe that when one negro kills another, that he should be put in the Penitentiary and made to work for the State. In fact, I am not sure but that the present conditions of the Penitentiary would be more punishment than electrocution.

Petition was presented in which it is asked that the sentence be commuted to life imprisonment. It is signed by eleven of the jurors

who tried the case; also by Sheriff J. Perry Poole, Deputy-Sheriff Huntsinger, Clerk of Court Cureton, County Treasurer Woodside, County Supervisor Goodwin, County Auditor M. L. Gullick; Master J. W. Gray, Register Mesne Conveyance H. B. Ingram, Probate Judge John T. Bramlett, Jailer A. A. Phillips. Another petition, signed by J. L. Carpenter, T. S. Carpenter, W. L. Mauldin, O. K. Mauldin, T. K. Earle, J. P. Carlisle, A. Blythe, C. J. Pride, and many other reputable citizens of Greenville.

Also a third petition signed by a number of the citizens from the county of Abbeville, asking that the sentence be commuted. Accompanying the petition is a letter from Judge Prince, in which he states: "I would not have been surprised at a verdict of guilty, with recommendation to mercy, as there were facts that tended to mitigation. I would not be averse to recommending a commutation of sentence to life imprisonment, but beyond this I could not go."

The following letter from Solicitor P. A. Bonham, addressed to Mr. J. T. Blassingame, was also placed on file with the petition:

"Columbia, S. C., February 13, 1913.

Mr. J. T. Blassingame, Greenville, S. C.

Dear Tom: I have been to see the Governor about Stake Morris, and have advised him that I shall be glad to have him commute Stake's sentence to life imprisonment.

Get up your petition and as many of the jurors as you can to sign the same. Do not lose any time.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) P. A. BONHAM."

Upon this showing, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, at hard labor, on March 21, 1913.

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QUATTLEBAUM, JOE D. (white): Convicted at the March, 1913, term of Court for Newberry county, of carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced to thirty days imprisonment upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$100.

The petition presented shows that this young man had a difficulty with another young man; that he was tried for assault and battery with intent to kill and found not guilty on that charge, but was convicted of carrying concealed weapons, and sentenced as above. He was tried before the Recorder of the town of Newberry, and paid a

fine of \$10. The Judge sentenced him to pay a fine of \$100 in the Circuit Court, also.

The petition is signed by W. H. Wallace, editor of the *Newberry Observer*; James McIntosh, President of the Newberry Savings Bank; Clerk and Treasurer J. R. Scurry, Col. E. H. Aull, County Superintendent of Education; W. H. Jernigan, Chief of Police; C. T. Wyche, member of the House of Representatives; J. D. Quattlebaum, Geo. Y. Hunter, Eugene S. Werts, County Auditor; John L. Epps, County Treasurer; W. A. Hill, County Supervisor; John C. Neal, B. C. Matthews, Alderman and Mayor *pro tem.* H. H. Abrams; by nine of the jurors who tried the case; several of the grand jury who found a true bill, and by about one hundred and fifty of my goods friends of the town and county of Newberry.

Upon this showing, the sentence was commuted to a fine of \$40 or thirty days imprisonment upon the public works. Commutation dated April 25, 1913.

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SPRING, CALVIN (white): Convicted at the June, 1913, term of Court for Florence county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$125 or to serve six months in the State Penitentiary, or upon the public works of Florence county.

The following communication was received from Hon. J. A. Muldrow, Clerk of Court for Florence county:

"Florence, S. C., August 23, 1913.

His Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: One Calvin Spring (white) was indicted, and at the June term of General Sessions Court, was found guilty of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature. The fine imposed was six months in the State Penitentiary, or a like period upon the public works of the county, or pay a fine of one hundred and twenty-five (\$125) dollars.

At the time the fine could not be raised, and Mr. Spring was sent to the Penitentiary. His friends have been trying to raise the amount of fine, and have succeeded in getting eighty (\$80) dollars, which they have placed in my hands.

Having already spent two months in prison, will you reduce the fine to eighty (\$80) dollars, or make the time four instead of six months? They are poor people. The difficulty arose from a drunken row, and, in my opinion, he has already been punished for



the offense. I hope you will look into this matter, and if it meets with your approval you will commute the sentence to four months, or allow me to receive the eighty dollars.

If you will comply with my request, please have Mr. Spring released, and let me know your decision in the matter, so I can enter the amount on fine book as paid. Thanking you very kindly for any help you may render these people, I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. A. MULDROW, Clerk of Court."

In view of the fact that this man has already spent two months in the Penitentiary, his sentence was commuted to a fine of \$80, or six months imprisonment in the Penitentiary, or upon the public works of Florence county. Commutation dated August 27, 1913.

STROUD, W. P. (white): Convicted before Magistrate B. L. McDowell, at Greenwood, S. C., September 17, 1913, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or to serve thirty days upon the public works of Greenwood county.

The following communication, and endorsement thereon, was received from Magistrate McDowell and Senator Johnson:

"Greenwood, S. C., September 17, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: W. P. Stroud, a young white man, a citizen of this county, pleaded guilty before me this morning of the charge of transporting liquor. He is a young man of very good family, and heretofore has borne a good reputation, there having been nothing of this kind against him heretofore. Under the statute, I was forced to sentence him to pay a fine of \$100, and I respectfully request, under the circumstances, that you commute his sentence to a fine of \$50, as I am satisfied this will be a lesson to him, and that he will not be guilty of such offense again.

Respectfully,

(Signed) B. L. McDOWELL,  
Magistrate, Greenwood County.

"I am personally acquainted with the young man above mentioned and with his family, and I respectfully join in the petition of the Magistrate herein. Respectfully,

(Signed) D. B. JOHNSON,  
Senator Greenwood County."

Upon request of the Magistrate who tried the case, and of the State Senator from Greenwood county, above quoted, the defendant's sentence was commuted on September 17, 1913, to a fine of \$50 or thirty days imprisonment upon the public works of Greenwood county.

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THOMPSON, CLEVE (colored): Convicted at the March, 1910, term of Court for Laurens county, of murder, with recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Petition was presented by Magistrate Abercrombie, of Woodruff, S. C., and is signed by Col. J. M. Gray, Messrs. J. P. and W. H. Gray, J. H. Abercrombie, and a large number of other citizens around where the difficulty took place. It is shown that there were three negroes tried for killing another negro; that this boy is very young and seems to have had but little to do with the case; wherefore the petitioners say that they think he has been sufficiently punished and ask for a pardon. I do not think, however, that the showing is strong enough to warrant me in granting a pardon, but that it is strong enough to commute the sentence to five years imprisonment, at hard labor, in the State Penitentiary. Such conclusion having been reached, the defendant's sentence was commuted to five years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, at hard labor, on January 28, 1913.

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WARD, A. W. (white): Convicted at the Fall, 1913, term of Court for Williamsburg county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$1,000 or to serve two years upon the public works of Williamsburg county, or in the State Penitentiary.

The following petitions and affidavits were presented in behalf of this defendant:

"State of South Carolina, County of Williamsburg.

In Court of General Sessions.—Petition.

*The State v. A. W. Ward*, Defendant.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease, of the State of South Carolina:

The petition of A. W. Ward respectfully shows to your Excellency, that he was tried in the Court of General Sessions for the county of Williamsburg, at the Fall term, for the year 1913, before

a petit jury, Judge T. S. Sease presiding, on the charge of assault and battery upon the person of one Holland Norris, with intent to kill. The charge being that he shot the said Norris with a gun upon the side of the head. That he was convicted of an assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to pay a fine of one thousand (\$1,000) dollars or be confined in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Williamsburg county for a period of two years.

That the said Norris has recovered from his wound.

2. Your petitioner further represents that after the shooting of the said Norris he paid his doctor bill, which amounted to \$25, and that the said Holland Norris then agreed not to prosecute him, and left Williamsburg county and returned to his home in North Carolina, and was not even at the trial; but that the case was prosecuted by an outsider.

That your petitioner is a white man, in poor circumstances, and is unable to pay the fine imposed upon him by the Court, and would respectfully ask that your Excellency would grant unto him such reduction of the fine as would be consistent with law and good order; and your petitioner will ever pray, etc.

(Signed) A. W. WARD, Petitioner.

Dated at Kingstree, October 18, 1913."

"The State of South Carolina, the County of Williamsburg.

Court of General Sessions.—Petition.

*The State v. A. W. Ward*, Defendant.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole, L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina:

We understand that a petition has been filed by Hirsch & Hirsch, attorneys, with you asking your Excellency for a reduction of the fine imposed upon the said A. W. Ward at the recent term of the Court for this county.

We would ask your Excellency to reduce the said fine to such amount as in your opinion would be proper, and we desire to join in the petition heretofore filed in your office in behalf of the said A. W. Ward for the purposes therein mentioned.

(Signed) GEORGE J. GRAHAM,

Sheriff of Williamsburg County;

J. J. B. MONTGOMERY,

Auditor of Williamsburg County.

Dated at Kingstree, October the 22d, 1913."



"The State of South Carolina, the County of Williamsburg.

In the Court of General Sessions.—Petition.

*The State v. A. W. Ward*, Defendant.

To His Excellency, Governor Cole. L. Blease, Governor of the State of South Carolina:

We, the county officials of Williamsburg county, would respectfully ask your Excellency to reduce the fine imposed upon A. W. Ward, who was convicted at the Fall term of Court, 1913, and sentenced by Judge T. S. Sease to pay a fine of \$1,000 or be imprisoned in the State Penitentiary or upon the public works of Williamsburg county for a period of two years, to such amount as your Excellency would deem just and proper.

(Signed) J. N. HAMMET, Co. Com.;  
 P. M. BROCKINGTON, Probate Judge;  
 J. WESLEY COOK, Co. Treasurer;  
 R. C. McELVEEN, Magistrate;  
 R. K. WALLACE, Magistrate;  
 L. P. KINDER,  
 ROBT. J. KIRK,  
 H. O. BRITTON, Clerk of Court;  
 L. W. McCANTS, Dept. Sheriff;  
 W. J. COCKFIELD, Jailer;  
 J. A. SCOTT, Policeman;  
 R. H. KELLAHAM,  
 Member House of Representatives;  
 E. C. EPPS, Senator;  
 J. Z. McCONNELL, Chief of Police."

"State of South Carolina, County of Williamsburg.

Personally appeared before me J. H. V. Gaskins, a former Magistrate for Williamsburg county, who, being duly sworn, says that he was in the store of Stephen Byrd, at Cades, S. C., on the night before Holland Norris was shot by A. W. Ward, and that the said Holland Norris told this deponent that he had brought a woman from North Carolina, another man's wife, and that he had represented the same to A. W. Ward that the said woman and himself was Ward's cousin, in order that the said Ward would allow them to remain at his home, and that as Ward had found out that he and this woman was not his cousin he had ordered them to leave G. W. Ward's place, where they were staying, the said G. W. Ward being a brother of A. W. Ward, and the said Holland Norris told deponent

that as said A. W. Ward was interfering with him and this woman whom he claimed as his sister and whom he also claimed as a cousin of A. W. Ward, that he would not stand for same and that he intended to go back to the home of A. W. Ward and kill him; and deponent further knows of his own knowledge that the said Holland Norris did try to procure a gun from one Stephen Byrd at Cades, S. C., for the purpose of killing the said A. W. Ward.

Deponent makes this affidavit in order that the statement as made to him may be properly presented to your Excellency before whom he understands a petition has been filed asking for a reduction of sentence on behalf of A. W. Ward, who has been convicted of assault and battery of high and aggravated nature at a recent term of the Court of Williamsburg county for the shooting of the said Holland Norris and sentenced to pay one thousand (\$1,000) dollars or serve two years on the chain gang.

Deponent is not related to either Holland Norris or A. W. Ward, the defendant.

(Signed) J. H. V. GASKINS.

Sworn to before me October 22, 1913.

(Signed) E. L. HIRSCH, Not. Public for S. C."

"State of South Carolina, County of Williamsburg.

Personally appeared before me A. W. Ward, who, being duly sworn, says that he is the defendant in the case of the *State v. A. W. Ward*; was recently convicted at the Court of General Sessions for Williamsburg county for assault and battery of high and aggravated nature for shooting one Holland Norris, and that he was sentenced to pay a fine of one thousand (\$1,000) dollars or serve two years on the public works of Williamsburg county.

Deponent further avers that sometime during the year 1912 the said Holland Norris came down from North Carolina with a woman whom he represented as his sister and represented to this deponent that he and the said woman was a cousin to the Wards; that believing what Holland Norris said to be true, the deponent and his brothers permitted the said Holland Norris and this woman to remain with them, in their homes and with their families for sometime. That thereafterwards this deponent became suspicious that the facts were not as the said Holland Norris represented them to be, and upon investigation he found that the said woman was not any relation to the said Wards nor the said Norris, but was a woman whom the said Holland Norris had brought from North Carolina, and deponent learned from information that the said woman was the

wife of another man in North Carolina, and that the said Holland Norris brought her there and passed her off as the cousin of this defendant and his brothers for the purpose of having some place to stay.

This deponent after learning the true conditions of facts told the said Holland Norris that neither he nor this woman could remain there any longer, and advised them to leave. After this interview with the said Holland Norris by deponent they left the home of G. W. Ward, where they were staying, the said G. W. Ward being a brother of this deponent, and with whom he lives, going separately, the woman her way and the man his. It was this that caused the difficulty between the defendant and the said Holland Norris. Norris claiming that the deponent had no right to interfere with him and his business, and as a result of certain threats which the said Holland Norris made against this deponent, this deponent believed at the time that this difficulty occurred, and knowing the feeling that existed between them, because he made them leave his brother's place, after learning the true state of affairs, he thought that the said Holland Norris intended to kill him, and this is the reason why he shot him.

Deponent further says that the said woman has returned to her home in North Carolina, and that the said Holland Norris has also.

This is a true statement of the facts which led up to this fuss between A. W. Ward and Holland Norris.

(Signed) A. W. WARD.

Sworn to before me this the 22d day of October, A. D. 1913.

(Signed) E. L. HIRSCH,

Notary Public for and in S. C."

Upon the showing made, the sentence imposed upon the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$100, or two years imprisonment upon the public works of Williamsburg county, or in the State Penitentiary. Commutation dated October 31, 1913.

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WHAM, JOHN G. (white): Convicted at the Spring, 1912, term of Court for Laurens county, of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and sentenced to two years imprisonment upon the public works of Laurens county, or in the State Penitentiary, or to pay a fine of \$1,500.

Petition was presented, in which it is stated:

"Whereas, The said sentence and fine imposed by the Court is excessive and unreasonable, and knowing that the said John G.



Wham is not financially able to pay such a large and unreasonable fine, we, the undersigned citizens of Laurens county, State aforesaid, do sincerely petition his Excellency, Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, to reduce the said fine to such an amount as the defendant *will be able to raise.*"

This petition is signed by former Senator John W. Ferguson, former Sheriff Geo. S. McCravy, Sheriff Owings, Deputy Sheriff Teid, County Policeman A. R. Sullivan, W. B. Knight, Esq., W. R. Richey, Jr., Esq., Clerk of Court, Deputy Clerk of Court, James T. Crews, Magistrate W. T. Crews, Dr. Ralph E. Hughes. Following endorsement by Mr. R. E. Babb, partner of Solicitor Cooper: "I think a smaller fine would sufficiently punish Mr. Wham, and therefore, join in the request for a reduction. (Signed) R. E. Babb, Atty." Also, signed by Representative Irby, Probate Judge Thompson, James H. Sullivan, Esq., former Auditor McCravy, County Auditor Thompson, Treasurer Young, Superintendent of Education Pitts, Dr. Isidore Schayer, James Copeland Henderson, foreman of the jury, and the following endorsement from A. C. Todd, Esq: "I believe this fine should be reduced and join in the petition. (Signed) A. C. Todd, Atty."

Also, by many of the leading members of the Laurens bar, prominent physicians, and I am informed, by nearly all of the merchants in the city where the prosecutor lives, and by a large number of the citizens from Fountain Inn, Clinton, Grey Court, and the town and county of Laurens.

Also several affidavits presented in regard to the case, and the following certificate from the County Auditor:

"State of South Carolina, County of Laurens.

This is to certify that John G. Wham pays taxes on the following described property: *No property, just poll tax*, and that the same is valued at                      dollars.

(Signed) J. W. THOMPSON,

March 16, 1912.

Auditor for Laurens County."

Upon this showing, the sentence of the defendant is reduced to a fine of \$200, or imprisonment upon the public works of Laurens county for a period of six (6) months.

Commutation dated September 18, 1913.

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WOOD, GEORGE W. (white): Convicted at the February, 1913, term of Court for Union county, of violating the dispensary law, and

sentenced to twelve months imprisonment upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$500.

The following petition was submitted:

"To His Excellency, Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor:

We, the undersigned citizens of Union county, do herewith petition your Excellency to commute the sentence of Geo. W. Wood, white, who was convicted of violation of the dispensary law at the February term of Court, 1913, and sentenced to twelve (12) months or \$500 fine by Judge Memminger.

This is the first time that this man was ever accused of selling liquor in this county, and we think that the sentence is excessive. All convictions heretofore in this county have been sentenced to three months or pay a fine of \$100, and we do pray that your Excellency will commute this sentence to the same."

This petition is signed by Col. James G. Long, Jr., W. A. Robinson and J. V. Askins, County Commissioners, and by more than one hundred and fifty of the other good citizens of the county of Union.

Upon the petition presented and the showing made, the defendant's sentence was commuted to a fine of \$100 or twelve months imprisonment upon the public works. Commutation dated May 19, 1913.

WOODS, HARRISON (white): Convicted at the November, 1912, term of Court for Oconee county, of violating the dispensary law, and sentenced to nine months upon the public works or to pay a fine of \$200.

The following communication was received from Solicitor P. A. Bonham:

"Walhalla, S. C., March 15, 1913.

Hon. Cole. L. Blease, Governor of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

My Dear Governor: One Harrison Woods was brought back from Georgia on extradition, for violation of the dispensary law. The sentence is a fine of \$200 or a jail sentence. He is physically incompetent and is unable to carry out the sentence, but could pay a fine of \$100. He would be a burden to the county, so I, therefore, recommend that you immediately commute his sentence to a fine of \$100.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) P. A. BONHAM."

In writing of this case, Clerk of Court for Oconee county states:

"Woods is a white man, and his brother has deposited with me one hundred (\$100) dollars.

If your Excellency could suspend the other one hundred (\$100) dollars, during good behavior, I am satisfied that the ends of justice would be meted out and the public mind satisfied.

Very truly,

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAIG, C. C. P. & G. S."

Upon the recommendation of Solicitor Bonham, who prosecuted this case, and the Clerk of Court, the sentence was commuted to nine months imprisonment upon the public works, or a fine of one hundred (\$100) dollars,—commutation being dated March 21, 1913.

WYLIE, BENJAMIN (white): Convicted at the April, 1913, term of Court for York county, of assault and battery with intent to kill, and sentenced to five months imprisonment upon the public works or pay a fine of \$75.

The Board of Pardons made the following recommendation in this case:

"42.

Columbia, S. C., July 4, 1913.

Hon. Coleman L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: *In re* petition of Benjamin Wiley; York county; convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill; sentenced five months or fine \$75; April 15, 1913.

It seems that the friends of this petitioner, poor mill people, have gotten together among themselves the sum of about \$40, and are very anxious to get him released, believing that he is deserving and worthy of their confidence and efforts. We ask that it be commuted so as to enable them to let him secure his release. Under this showing, we recommend that the sentence be commuted to three months or \$40 fine.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. F. WARREN, Chairman;

JAS. A. SUMMERSETT, Secretary;

D. H. MAGILL,

Board of Pardons."

Upon this recommendation, the sentence of the defendant was commuted to a fine of \$40, or imprisonment upon the public works of York county for a period of five months. Commutation dated July 8, 1913.